MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

27 JULY 1982

Lebanon

Military Situation -- Israeli forces mounted repeated air and sea attacks on targets in west Beirut and the southern suburbs on 26 July, according to Beirut and Voice of Lebanon radio reports. Israeli planes hit a number of Palestinian tanks, artillery positions and an ammunition dump, Voice of Lebanon reported. According to IDF radio, an Israeli military source denied that IDF soldiers attempted to land on the shore at west Beirut, and the IDF spokesman confirmed to the radio in another report that the Israeli Navy shelled Palestinian targets in the city.

The clandestine Voice of Palestine radio claimed that Israeli shelling caused 101 casualties from late 25 to 26 July. The Voice of Lebanon noted that Israeli and Palestinian shellfire again erupted early 27 July.

An Israeli position in western Al-Biqa' was destroyed by Joint Forces on 24-25 July, a statement by the Palestinian-Lebanese Joint Forces spokesman carried by Voice of Palestine radio claimed. Meanwhile, AFP reported that the Israeli army advanced 10 km up the valley, occupied three villages and reinforced its lines with tanks and radar.

Israel has the answer to the SAM-8's deployed by the Syrians, Israeli Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon told the Knesset Defense and Foreign Affairs Committee, according to MA'ARIV.

PLO Operations Room Commander Sa'd Sayil said a battle for Beirut is now inevitable, the Voice of Lebanon reported.

PLO Position, Reaction -- Confirming that PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat told the visiting U.S. delegation that the PLO abides by all UN resolutions pertaining to the Palestinian cause, the Voice of Palestine observed that this declaration has provoked extensive media coverage and been subject to various interpretations. Meanwhile, 'Arafat contacted PLO offices throughout the world to point out that the Palestine National Council has already approved these UN resolutions, Beirut radio reported. None of the main PLO leaders in west Beirut has yet criticized 'Arafat's initiative, the radio said. In Damascus, Palestine National Council Speaker Khalid al-Fahum said the PLO accepts all the UN resolutions adopted since 1947", according to KUNA. Security Council Resolution 242 "had been rejected" because it views the Palestinian crisis as a refugee problem and not a problem of self-determination, he stated. Citing a PLO official in Beirut, KUNA also reported that the document signed by 'Arafat indicates that the PLO will accept an amended version of 242 that not only recognizes Israel's right to exist, but also guarantees Palestinian rights to statehood and self-determination. U.S. Congressman Paul McCloskey said he had been told by 'Arafat that the document includes 242 "if it is taken with other resolutions," KUNA added.

The director of the PLO's Tehran office said the document has absolutely nothing to do with official recognition of Israel, according to Tehran radio. Meanwhile, JANA accused the "reactionary Palestinian rightwing" of "intensifying suspicious moves with the reactionary Arab regimes and the Zionist enemy." A Kuwaiti spokesman announced that Kuwait will support any decision adopted by the PLO that helps the Palestinians regain their rights and their land, according to KUNA. Amman radio said the document signed by 'Arafat constitutes "one of our most important turning points" and the United States can no longer officially avoid negotiating with the PLO.

Habib Mission, Destination of Palestinians -- U.S. envoy Philip Habib met in London with Jordanian King Husayn, who stressed the need for a complete and unconditional Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon, Amman radio reported. In a related report, Monte Carlo radio said Husayn rejected proposals that Jordan receive all or some of the PLO fighters from Lebanon. In Lebanon, the Islamic Salvation Front of Tripoli categorically rejected a proposal for the transfer of the PLO fighters from Beirut to Tripoli, according to Beirut radio. On the other hand, Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri announced that Sudan is ready to welcome the Palestinian fighters from Lebanon, SUNA reported.

Egyptian Message to U.S. -- During his forthcoming visit to Washington, Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali will deliver a message to President Ronald Reagan stressing that the Lebanese crisis must be studied in the light of the latest developments in the PLO position, MENA reported.

Israeli Position -- 'Arafat's "publicity stunt" will not help the "terrorists," and the only burning issue today is that Israel wants the PLO out of Beirut and Lebanon, an Israeli Foreign Ministry spokesman said in remarks reported by Jerusalem radio. Earlier, Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said the air force pressure on west Beirut is aimed at forcing the PLO to leave, DAVAR reported. A senior Israeli official said that if the PLO withdraws from Beirut via the Al-Biqa' Valley, Israel might permit some PLO fighters to remain in Al-Biqa' for a limited time, THE JERUSALEM POST reported.

Egypt

Israel should recognize the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and the PLO should recognize Israel's right to exist, President Husni Mubarak said in a speech at the National Democratic Party Headquarters broadcast by Cairo radio. Asserting that the Israelis are mistaken to suppose they can eliminate the Palestinian people and cause through military operations, Mubarak said the Israelis must withdraw immediately. Regarding proposals that Egypt receive the PLO command and fighters, he said the solution does not lie in removing the PLO's command from Lebanon. Mubarak also voiced strong opposition to attempts to impose the hegemony of one group over all others in Lebanon and denounced the Israeli suggestion that Jordan be transformed into a Palestinian state. Criticizing the Iranian invasion of Iraq, Mubarak called on the superpowers to declare their stand on the issue.

Regarding Egypt's internal affairs, he said security is assured but drew attention to the country's economic problems. After detailing the budgetary problems caused by price subsidies and noting the economic conference's recommendation that the subsidies should be reduced, he nevertheless promised not to lift them.

Iran-Iraq War

Fighting continued in the Basra sector of Iraq; Iraq pounded enemy positions, killing five Iranians, and Iranian artillery hit residential areas of Basra, killing 6 and wounding 22, an Iraqi military communique carried by INA reported. An Iranian Armed Forces communique carried by Tehran radio confirmed that heavy fighting took place on the southern fronts and noted that Iraqi artillery continued to hit Abadan.

Commanders of the Iranian ground forces and revolution guards said the Ramadan operation is taking longer than previous operations because Iran planned to do the greatest amount of damage to Iraqi military forces without hitting Iraqi cities and civilians, Tehran radio reported. The commander of the ground forces claimed the Iraqis have so far lost 5,000 troops, 650 tanks and personnel carriers, with 1,159 soldiers and 101 tanks captured. He added that Iran controls 150 square km of Iraqi territory.

Algerian Mediation - Regarding the Algerian offer for mediation in the war, Iranian Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi told a Cabinet meeting that Iran welcomes any effort aimed at fulfilling its conditions for ending the war, Tehran radio reported. He stressed that the Iraqi forces must withdraw unconditionally to "areas from which they started the war."

Khamene'i Speech -- Iranian President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i reiterated in a speech to military commanders carried by Tehran radio that Iran poses no threat to neighboring Gulf states, and that Iranian "victories" are cutting superpower access to the Gulf region and guaranteeing the independence of the region. He said the main conditions for ending the war are that the "aggressor" is punished and that war reparations are paid.

Kuwait on Alert -- Kuwait has declared a state of alert for army units on the border with Iraq as a precaution against further Gulf war developments, according to the London paper ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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ARAB MINISTERIAL COMMITTEE TO MEET 28 JULY

LD261218 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1105 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Excerpts] Jidda, 26 Jul (SPA) -- The ministerial committee stemming from the Arab foreign ministers' conference will meet next Wednesday [28 July] at the Foreign Ministry in Jidda. At this meeting the committee will examine the outcome of the visits paid by the delegations it had sent to a number of countries, particularly the Security Council member states, and the results of contacts with the leaders of these states with regard to efforts to put an end to the Israeli invasion of Lebanon and the withdrawal of the invading forces from Lebanese territory.

'ARAFAT ISSUES CIRCULAR ON COMMENTS TO MCCLOSKEY

NC262232 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2200 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Text] Unofficial sources have said in Beirut that PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat yesterday issued circulars to all PLO offices throughout the world explaining that he told U.S. Congressman Paul McCloskey and the congressional delegation present in Beirut that we approve of all UN resolutions pertaining to the Palestinian issue. These were approved by our National Council at its previous session.

OFFICIALS REACT TO 25 JULY 'ARAFAT DOCUMENT

Khalid al-Fahum Comments

LD261208 Kuwait KUNA in English 1026 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Text] Damascus, July 26 (KUNA) -- The Palestine Liberation Organization accepts all the United Nations resolutions adopted since 1947 and until now, the head of the Palestinian National Council (parliament-in-exile), Khalid al-Fahum, said Monday.

PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat last night signed a statement recognizing all the U.N. resolutions relevant to the Palestinian question to an American congressional delegation.

Answering a question on the U.N. Security Council 242 Resolution, Al-Fahum said that the resolution had been rejected because it considers the Palestinian crisis a refugee problem and not a problem of a people seeking their right to self-determination.

Meanwhile, a Palestinian delegation Monday met with Syrian Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and discussed with him the situation in Lebanon from the political and military points of view and means of confronting the Israeli invasion. Palestinian sources said that the delegation comprised Al-Fahum, member of the PLO Executive Committee and head of the Political Department Faruq Qaddumi, committee members 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar and Muhammed Khalifa and member of Fatah Central Committee Muhammad Ratib Ghunaym.

The sources added that Khaddam briefed the delegation on the talks he held with U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Secretary of State George Shultz during his mission in Washington with Saudi Foreign Minister Sa'ud al-Faysal last week. Khaddam also informed the Palestinian delegation of the talks the American envoy Philip Habib had in Syria, the sources said.

The Palestinian-Syrian talks also covered the meeting of the six-man ministerial committee emanating from the Arab foreign ministers conference scheduled to be held in At-Ta'if next Wednesday, the sources said.

KUNA Cites PLO, U.S. Officials

LD261226 Kuwait KUNA in English 1054 GMT 26 Jul 82

[By Mohammed Salam]

[Excerpt] Beirut, July 26 (KUNA) -- A Palestine Liberation Organization official told KUNA Monday a document signed by Chairman Yasir 'Arafat accepting all U.N. resolutions relevant to the Palestinian question is "a change in tactics and not in strategy."

The official, who refused to be identified by name, said the reported document involves an "indirect pledge by the PLO for accepting an amended version of a U.N. Security Council resolution that, in addition to recognizing Israel's right to existence as stipulated by U.N. Security Council Resolution 242, also guarantees the Palestinian rights to statehood and self-determination." The official refused to go beyond the terse clarification, however.

'Arafat signed the document Sunday night for a visiting six-man U.S. congressional delegation during a meeting at the Israeli-besieged Muslim sector of Beirut. Congressman Paul N. McCloskey (Rep. Calif.), who attended the meeting, told American reporters later that 'Arafat had "met the conditions" for a U.S. recognition of the PLO and added that he would "recommend" to U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz that "we now open negotiations" with the eight-faction umbrella commando organization. "Chairman 'Arafat has signed for us his acceptance of all U.N. resolutions which include the right of Israel to exist," McCloskey said, adding that "I intend to go back, and I hope my colleagues will join me, in recommending to Secretary Shultz that we now open negotiations with the PLO."

McCloskey showed reporters a document on which the congressman had written "Chairman 'Arafat accepts all U.N. resolutions relevant to the Palestinian question." The document was signed in black ink "Y. 'Arafat. 25/7/82." McCloskey said the document meant that 'Arafat had accepted U.N. Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, respectively of 1967 and 1973. Elaborating on his remarks, McCloskey told reporters: "I said to 'Arafat: Does this include 242, and he said yes, if it is taken with other resolutions."

Other members of the congressional delegation were Mary Rose Oakar (D. Ohio), Nick J. Rahall (D. West Virginia), Mervyn M. Dymally (D. Calif.), David E. Bonior (D. Michigan) and Elliot H. Levitas (D. Georgia).

Rahall, in a dialogue with reporters at Beirut's Christian sector, said 'Arafat "refused to declare a unilateral recognition of Israel."

"He ('Arafat) wants that to be simultaneous with the acceptance of all other U.S. resolutions that recognize the right of both Israel and the Palestinians to exist."

Rahall expressed the belief that the document did not include a major new step on 'Arafat's part because the commando leader had earlier accepted the eight-point Saudi Arabian peace plan which recognizes the right of all Middle East states to exist in peace.

This, however, contradicted a statement by the PLO U.N. observer Zuhdi at-Tarazi who was quoted as saying he had a telephone contact with 'Arafat who "told me the document did not include Resolutions 242 and 338."

However, At-Tarazi said, the document [words indistinct] to U.N. Resolution 181 that calls for the creation of separate Palestinian and Jewish states."

"The PLO recognizes two states together, not one alone," At-Tarazi was quoted as saying. He didn't clarify the vague phrase of "two states together."

At-Tarazi Remarks

NC261211 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Text] Representative Paul McCloskey today asserted anew at a press conference that the written document 'Arafat handed to him contains 'Arafat's acceptance of Resolution 242. He added that 'Arafat told the U.S. delegation the [PLO] organization accepts all resolutions pertaining to the Palestinian problem provided they are taken as a whole.

Despite these assertions, the PLO representative at the United Nations, Zuhdi at-Tarazi, said PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat had told him on the telephone that UN Resolutions 242 and 338 were not mentioned in the document he signed and handed yesterday to the U.S. delegation of representatives that visited Beirut.

At-Tarazi told journalists the document mentions Resolution 181 of 1947 which called for the establishment of two separate states -- one Arab and one Jewish -- in Palestine and under the British mandate.

PFLP Spokesman Comments

NC261527 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Text] Abu Mahir al-Yamani, spokesman of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, has refused to recognize the Security Council resolutions because the Palestine National Council has rejected them.

Al-Yamani said nobody can change the decisions of the Palestine National Council except the council itself. He added that the sacrifices of the Palestinian people in the past 17 years cannot be disregarded. He urged all Palestinian fighters to foil the plots against the Palestinian leadership.

Meanwhile, the PLO chairman [Yasir 'Arafat] has sent a cable to the PLO office in Doha affirming that at its recent session, the Palestine National Council approved all the Security Council resolutions pertaining to the Palestinian question. In his cable, 'Arafat says: This is what I have conveyed to McCloskey.

Khalil al-Wazir Statement

LD270920 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0748 GMT 27 Jul 82

[Text] Kuwait, 27 Jul (KUNA) -- A senior PLO official released a press statement here today that says the document signed by PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat, which contains his acceptance of all United Nations resolutions relating to the Palestine question, does not constitute any alteration of the PLO's posture.

The Kuwaiti newspaper AL-ANBA' says the official, Deputy Commander in Chief of the Palestine Resistance forces, Khalil al-Wazir, Abu Jihad, was interviewed last night by telephone at his command headquarters in west Beirut, which has been besieged by Israel for more than a month.

According to AL-ANBA', Al-Wazir said the rights, about which 'Arafat spoke when he signed the document in front of a U.S. congressional delegation last Sunday, "are definitely the rights of the Palestinian people, for they alone are the people with lost rights, and subsequently [words indistinct] talk about rights for others." He added: "The posture of the Revolution toward the UN resolutions is not new; it is a posture (?agreed) within the Palestine National Council," which is regarded as a parliament in exile.

Abu Jihad praised the stand of the Muslim Lebanese political leaders and of the elders of the national movement in alliance with the Palestinian Resistance, which rejects the nomination of Bashir al-Jumayyil, leader of the rightwing Phalangist militia which cooperates with Israel, as Lebanese president in succession to the current president, Ilyas Sarkis. He said those leaders declared their rejection of Al-Jumayyil's nomination "just as they declared their adherence and commitment to the Palestine question and [word indistinct] the national movement in Lebanon."

Al-Wazir expressed his hope that the Lebanese authorities' stand on the PLO, "which corresponds to U.S. and Israeli calls for us to leave Beirut, will improve" after a meeting expected to be held by the six Arab foreign ministers in At-Ta'if tomorrow to discuss the Israeli invasion of Lebanon.

Al-Wazir linked a relaxation in the current crisis to a number of factors. These are, "First, the Israeli thinking and its options. The second factor is the Arab stand to be taken" [word indistinct] at the At-Ta'if meeting. In this connection he called on the committee [words indistinct] "to draw up a clear program to be submitted to the Arab foreign ministers." Abu Jihad said the third factor is "how prepared the Lebanese authorities are for dialogue" with the PLO. The fourth factor is "how capable the Palestinian and Arab movements are of opening international political prospects."

He said there is nothing new in the stands of the major powers toward the invasion. "The U.S. role, naturally, is clear. It supports Israel which it bolsters with all its strength. As for the Soviet role, we have noticed there is possibly the start of a movement -- although this movement is slow -- that began with the statement by Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev." Brezhnev called for the actual separation of Palestinian and Israeli forces in Beirut by United Nations forces stationed in Lebanon. He rejected the participation of U.S. forces in supervising the separation process and reiterated his proposal for an international conference of all concerned parties to settle the Middle East crisis.

Abu Jihad praised "the heroic stand" of the Lebanese and Palestinian combatants in Beirut. He said it is "a great factor in all that is happening now."

SALAH KHALAF VIEWS PROSPECTS OF LEBANON WAR

PM261141 London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic 24-30 Jul 82 p 17

[Interview with Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf by Patrice Barra of the French Gamma news agency in Beirut -- date not given]

[Excerpts] [Question] You have asked Israel to pull back 5 km from Beirut in return for a Resistance withdrawal to its camps in the Lebanese capital and then demilitarizing west Beirut. Is this still the PLO stand?

[Answer] The stand we conveyed to the Lebanese Government made no mention of the number of kilometers. Israeli withdrawal would enable the international forces to take up their positions in Beirut and, of course, the regular Lebanese forces would take part in this.

However, this must be preceded by a cease-fire that would prevent Israel from being able to strengthen and improve its positions, and it would be on condition that talks would follow between the PLO and the Lebanese Government. In this regard we are not concerned with demands and conditions the Israelis and Americans put on the Lebanese Government.

[Question] Why aren't you concerned?

[Answer] We do not talk to the Israelis or the Americans. It is up to the Lebanese Government to choose the side with which it wants to negotiate.

[Question] Nevertheless, you wanted dialogue with the U.S. administration.

[Answer] True, but under different conditions. Philip Habib today is not a political negotiator but an army general. With one telephone call he can break or reimpose the cease-fire.

[Question] Do you believe the Beirut battle will come?

[Answer] We are preparing for that possibility, but should it not happen the matter will be more difficult and complicated for us.

[Question] What would be, for you, a reasonable distance for Israeli withdrawal?

[Answer] In principle, 10 km. However, the Lebanese state cannot reach a settlement with Israel as long as Israeli forces are on Lebanese territory. If there is any indication that matters will change in this respect, we will not submit or surrender to it.

[Question] Did the idea of leaving Lebanon one day even occur to you?

[Answer] Where are we to go? The only place we agree to return to is Palestine.

[Question] If this is your stand, what would happen if the Lebanese Government asked you to leave its territory and the Lebanese Army wanted to destroy and eliminate you? Where would you go? To war?

[Answer] It is the guns in our hands that will provide the answer. We also enjoy the support of some Lebanese elements, which reject our departure from Lebanon.

[Question] Who does support the Palestinians today? Is it Syria, the Arabs, or the Soviet Union? Or is there nobody that supports you?

[Answer] I am talking about the factions that are here with us: the Lebanese nationalists. Aid from abroad is a different matter. I can talk only about those are helping here now.

[Question] Some people talk about an alliance between the PLO and Syria.

[Answer] Some of the Syrian forces in Lebanon fight with us. As for the rest, they have not yet entered the battle.

[Question] You said previously that the current invasion is not merely an Israeli but an American invasion as well. Do you believe that Europe too implicitly approves the Israeli invasion as a strike against the "bastion of international terror," according to these quarters?

[Answer] Israeli propaganda trumpets constantly describe the PLO as terrorist. I believe the European stand must be condemned because of its weakness in the face of U.S. hegemony and domination. However, I exclude both Greece and France from this judgment. The European attitude to the U.S. stand must also be condemned. Imagine that one of the shelters destroyed in Sidon could accommodate all the inhabitants of the Falkland Islands, and when you think a third world war was risked because of the inhabitants of those remote islands, this proves our blood is not as important as far as the United States and Europe are concerned.

[Question] Are you now besieged and persecuted?

[Answer] No, we are not besieged. It is true that our people are being massacred at the hands of a new fascism, but if you look at past Arab-Israeli wars you will see that no Arab force has been able to resist Israel as we are resisting today. The problem is that Arab stands are not being properly clarified. All that Israel and the Lebanese Government want us to do is to raise our hands and surrender. Even if the situation calls for all of us to die as martyrs, a new general will carry on the struggle, so the Palestinian problem will remain alive. I am not saying this out of emotionalism.

[Question] How do you explain the absence of any Palestinian reaction in the occupied West Bank and Gaza to the Israeli invasion?

[Answer] There was reaction, but Israeli censors tried to stifle it. The Palestinians declared a strike and gave blood; they passed on UNRWA aid to the victims of invasion. Israel is currently waging a political war against them. The question that should be asked is: Why was there no reaction in the Arab world?

[Question] What will the PLO do if Lebanon signs the Camp David agreement?

[Answer] As long as we remain and stand fast with the Lebanese Nationalist Movement and the Amal movement, it will not be possible for Lebanon to sign a peace agreement with Israel. If Israel occupies all of Lebanon, then the signing of a peace agreement between the two countries becomes possible.

[Question] There is a proverb that says, "If you want peace, prepare for war." Does this proverb apply to the present situation, particularly in light of the current battles that are paving the way to negotiations?

[Answer] This is not an honorable battle, but rather a war of annihilation in order to liquidate the Palestinian people. By its invasion of Lebanon, Israel has proved that it wants to eradicate everything Palestinian in Lebanon. Not long ago a crying Lebanese woman came to me and told me about an incident that happened to her with the invading Israeli forces: These forces rounded up a group of Palestinian and Lebanese civilians and immediately began separating the two, and when the woman wanted to keep a Palestinian child in order to look after him, an Israeli officer told her: "Not the Palestinian child: He must come with us." How do you expect us to talk to them when they take our children?

KUWAIT

STATE DECLARES MAXIMUM ALERT ON IRAQI BORDERS

PM261457 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 26 Jul 82 p 1

[ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT correspondent report: "Alert on Kuwaiti Border with Iraq"]

[Text] London -- ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT has learned that the Kuwaiti Government has declared a maximum state of alert in the Kuwaiti Army units stationed on the border with Iraq as a precaution against developments of the Gulf war.

The amir of Kuwait inspected air defense units on the Kuwaiti-Iraqi border on the first day of 'Id al-Fitr and met with senior commanders.

The Kuwaiti Government held urgent and intensive contacts with the GCC states and submitted a memorandum to the GCC secretary general following the Iranian crossing of the Iraqi border, underlining the fact that Kuwait is the gateway to the Arab Gulf.

OFFICIAL DECLARES STATE SUPPORT FOR PLO DECISIONS

LD261530 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1456 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Text] Kuwait, 26 Jul (KUNA) -- Kuwait today declared its support for any decision adopted by the PLO concerning the Palestine question.

The acting minister of state for the affairs of the Council of Ministers and minister of public health, Dr 'Abd ar-Rahman al-Awadhi, said following a meeting of Kuwait's Council of Ministers, that Kuwait has been following up reports on PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat signing a document with the six-member U.S. delegation after their meeting yesterday afternoon in Beirut.

The minister stressed that any decision adopted by the PLO will be supported by Kuwait if it helps to achieve its just demands to regain full rights and the return of the Palestinian people to their land. Kuwait always stands by the side of the PLO to realize its basic aim, namely the liberation of its land from the claws of the Zionist entity.

The minister said Kuwait has not received the official full text of this document. Kuwait's practice always is to support any decision adopted by the PLO concerning the Palestine question.

FOREIGN MINISTER ON UPCOMING ARAB MEETING

LD260918 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0755 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Text] Kuwait, 26 Jul (KUNA) -- Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad as-Sabah, Kuwaiti deputy prime minister and foreign affairs and information minister, was quoted as saying here today that he feared the superpowers may be planning to ignite the situation in the Arab region in order to secure control there.

The Kuwaiti papers AL-QABAS and AL-ANBA' quote him as saying this situation requires the Arabs to be vigilant and aware of the plots hatched against them, to raise to the level of pan-Arab responsibility and to shun differences, and envisages a confrontation with the conspiracies hatched against them that are aimed at entrenching a de facto backwardness and fragmentation [of the Arab world] by maintaining instability in the area.

Shaykh Sabah said: Contacts are now being held to reach an agreement over a date for the meeting of an Arab six-man committee charged with looking into ways of resolving the crisis of the Israeli invasion of Lebanon.

The Lebanese Government had asked that such a meeting be held on Wednesday, while Syria asked that it be held tomorrow in At-Ta'if. The committee includes Kuwait, Syria, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, Algeria and the PLO, in addition to the secretary general of the Arab League. Shaykh Sabah said the committee would examine and evaluate the results of the visits of the [Arab] delegations to the capitals of the great powers and would then decide its future moves, in addition to [conducting] a comprehensive review of the situation in the light of what the brothers suggest.

Delegations from the committee visited the five states that are permanent members of the UN Security Council -- the Soviet Union, the United States, China, France and Great Britain -- in order to hold talks aimed at ending the Israeli occupation of Lebanon since the 6th of last month. Shaykh Sabah expressed hope that the six-man committee would achieve what is good for Lebanon and the Palestinians to face up to the Israeli invasion.

He said the presence of Lebanese Foreign Minister Fu'ad Butrus at the forthcoming committee meetings will certainly help in reaching positive results. He described the decision of the Lebanese Government to send its foreign minister to the meetings as a positive initiative by Lebanon. Fu'ad Butrus did not attend the first meeting of the committee held in At-Ta'if late last month.

'SENIOR DIPLOMAT' ON LEBANON, PALESTINIAN ISSUE

GF251640 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 25 Jul 82 p 2

[Statement by "senior Kuwaiti diplomat" to correspondent 'Abd al-Karim Abu Khadrah in Kuwait -- date not given]

[Text] A senior Kuwaiti diplomat has expressed complete conviction that the current war between the Zionist invading troops and the Lebanese-Palestinian joint forces in Lebanon has created a favorable atmosphere for an overall settlement to the Arab issue represented by Palestine. The senior Kuwaiti diplomat told Al-WATAN that the United States, which has supported the invasion financially and materially since it erupted, is actually acting on the basis of former U.S. Secretary of State Kissinger's understanding that peace in the Middle East can only be achieved by guns. The diplomat recalled that the October war established a peace which is at least acceptable to the parties concerned, which are Egypt, Israel and the United States. He added that the war going on in Lebanon and the political atmosphere surrounding that part of the Arab world are similar to the political atmosphere that followed the cease-fire agreement during the October war. He went on to say there are big differences between the two wars in the demands the warring parties are striving to achieve in Lebanon and the circumstances, developments and division in the Arab fold and in the emergence of new forces in the region following the absence of Iran's shah and the establishment of a new regime in Iran which negatively or positively reacts to all events in the Middle East.

Regarding his view on the way the war in Lebanon could be ended, the Kuwaiti diplomat expressed his belief that the Arab League delegation that recently visited Washington must have discussed with U.S. President Ronald Reagan the possibility of executing the plan proposed by Saudi King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and must have been acquainted with the stance of the U.S. administration regarding this plan, as it represents a favorable basis for ending the conflict in the region and paving the way for its countries to live in peace.

The diplomat said: I think the U.S. administration believes in this plan, but its execution needs some time and more steps by the U.S. administration before it pressures Israel -- by banning the supply of cluster bombs to it, for example -- and [adopts] similar measures against the PLO to force it to recognize Israel and declare that recognition.

In this respect, the Kuwaiti diplomat predicts the war will escalate until both sides reach a bottleneck. The PLO will be in a critical military situation, and hence its rescue will become such an urgent Arab necessity that all Arab countries, including Egypt, will have to contribute to it by using all means, weapons and political pressure. The Arabs will be compelled to declare they will withdraw their assets and halt oil shipments. It will be necessary to work to escalate the official hostility between Egypt and Israel by recalling the Egyptian ambassador to Israel and forcing President Husni Mubarak to threaten military interference to defend the PLO. In the European arena, measures will have to be taken to force Europe to reject U.S. policy. It should be recalled that the stance of France and West Germany regarding the U.S. administration's technological embargo on the Soviet gas pipeline represents a beginning of Europe's rejection of U.S. policy.

The senior Kuwaiti diplomat said: These are the considerations the U.S. administration has to take into account to stop the war after both sides reach the bottleneck I mentioned. There are also Palestinian considerations which I don't think President Reagan can ignore. These are many, but the most important of them are:

First, the PLO may find itself obliged to abandon its moderation. If this happens, the interests of the United States and its friends in the region will be in great danger. I mean that and I think the Arab League delegation warned President Reagan about it.

Second, the eruption of revolution in the occupied territories -- in other words, the transfer of the Palestinian war from Lebanon to Palestine, the house of the aggressor and invader -- is something the U.S. administration and Begin's government should worry about.

Third, the resumption of Palestinian patriotic operations from Jordan, even if carried out secretly -- especially since the Jordanian Army, like other Arab armies, showed sympathy to the magnificent steadfastness of Palestinian fighters in Lebanon -- will force Israel to launch aggression against Jordan. This will lead Israel into a more critical situation in the international arena as an aggressive country in the region that does not want peace.

AL-QABAS ON 25 JULY 'ARAFAT STATEMENT

LD261106 Kuwait KUNA in English 1010 GMT 26 Jul 82

[From the press review]

[Text] Kuwait, July 26 (KUNA) -- AL-QABAS on 'Arafat's statement:

"We don't know how true are the American reports about the statement signed by PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat recognising the U.N. resolutions which recognise Israel's right to exist as the American press is a Zionist landmine.

"The PLO has struggled politically and military for the objective of establishing a Palestinian state on any part of the Palestinian soil. Yasir 'Arafat and his fellowmen, despite the Israeli siege of Beirut and the Israeli military pressure, do not have the right to offer concessions in the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and to establish their state, and those leaders are not the kind of men who abandon the rights of their own people."

"The Palestinian leadership is not of that kind to accept the Security Council 242 Resolution without having firm guarantees, as that resolution regards the Palestinians as refugees.

"We don't rule out the intentions of deceitfulness from the American side and the intentions to liquidate and murder the PLO from Israel. The U.S., after having 'Arafat's statement, should give him what he wants, namely a recognition of the PLO and of the Palestinian right to self-determination. This will be a prelude for Israel's recognition of the new facts and giving the Hebrew state its dearest dream of being accepted by its Arab neighbours.

"This would not be the end, it would be the first chain of a new series of developments that only God knows where would lead."

SAUDI ARABIA

'RESPONSIBLE SOURCE' CONDEMNS ISRAELI INVASION

LD262110 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Text] A responsible source commenting on the escalation of events in Lebanon and the dimensions of the Israeli invasion, today said Israeli has gone too far in its savage aggression, killing and making homeless thousands of innocent Lebanese and Palestinian citizens without justification. This abominable crime undoubtedly requires the awakening of international conscience to condemn these flagrant violations of UN resolutions and the human rights charter.

The source added that at a time when we denounce this unjust aggression, we appeal to all peace and justice-loving states which are calling for the preservation of legitimate human rights in the world to condemn this escalated Israeli invasion and these savage actions which contravene the most basic human rights and which despise all human values and principles.

MUSLIM LEAGUE CALLS 4 AUGUST EMERGENCY MEETING

LD261900 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1810 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Text] Makkah, 26 Jul (SPA) -- Shaykh Muhammad 'Ali al-Harkan, general secretary of the Muslim World League, has issued invitations to all members of the league's founding council to attend an emergency meeting on 4 August to discuss the ferocious Zionist aggression against Lebanon.

Shaykh al-Harkan told SPA he received an urgent message from Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, asking for the meeting to discuss the ugly plot being perpetrated by Israeli forces in Lebanon in order to liquidate the Palestinians and the Palestinian Resistance, and to debate the barbaric ways in which the Zionists are treating the Lebanese and Palestinian people in Lebanon. He said Yasir 'Arafat made it clear in his letter that the PLO will make Muslim states face their responsibilities in the face of this aggressive attack. [passage indistinct]

Shaykh al-Harkan emphasized the gravity of what is happening on Lebanese soil, where an entire nation is facing extermination in an unparalled, savage war. The secretary general of the Muslim World League condemned the terrible silence of the civilized world, which brandishes the banners of human rights and advocates their defense in connection with the situation in Lebanon. He described this silence as a shameful stigma on the civilized world.

RIYADH PREVIEWS FOREIGN MINISTERS CONFERENCE

LD262128 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 26 Jul 82

["News and Commentary," prepared by Husayn al-Akshari]

[Text] The six-man committee of the Arab foreign ministers is to resume its work in At-Ta'if the day after tomorrow, Wednesday, to study the results of the visits of the Arab delegations regarding the development of the Israeli invasion of Lebanon.

The meeting of the six-man committee is being reconvened in circumstances characterized with caution regarding what is being circulated: that a new situation has developed with regard to events, not only in the Lebanese arena but also with regard to the entire Arab-Israeli conflict. However, the one thing remaining in the arena -- the most important thing -- is the fact that the Israeli enemy is continuing its ferocious practices against the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples, and Israel's attempt to impose a fait-accompli by the use of force. This does not mean the enemy is still the only one capable of imposing its will or that the Arabs should surrender to such choices.

The Arab delegations made tours to explain the dimensions of the dangers which would be the outcome of a continuation of the Israeli arrogance and which would extend beyond the area of the conflict. This would threaten the interests of many countries of the world which have mutual interests with the Arab world. In views of such considerations, the meeting of the six-man committee in At-Ta'if assumes special importance in studying the results and the extent of the effect of these results on the process of finding a solution for the crisis, the danger of which is being escalated as a result of the Israeli enemy's insistence in continuing its military blockade of the western sector of the Lebanese capital, Beirut. Despite the appearance of signs of optimism regarding the crisis, a feeling of caution and nonindulgence in optimism so far appear to be the most preferable thing.

UAE

SHAYKH ZAYID RECEIVES CHEDLI KLIBI IN GENEVA

GF262107 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1320 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Text] Geneva, 26 Jul (WAKH) -- UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan received Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi here today.

During the meeting they discussed Arab efforts aimed at containing the Lebanese crisis and the current Arab situation.

The meeting was attended by Shaykh Rashid ibn Ahmad al-Mu'alla, member of the Supreme Council and ruler of Umm al-Qaywayn, and [name indistinct], UAE president's representative.

MUBARAK INSTRUCTS 'ALI ON TALKS WITH REAGAN

NC261828 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1700 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Text] Cairo, 26 Jul (MENA) -- MENA has learned that during a meeting today President Husni Mubarak gave instructions to Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali regarding the talks he will hold in Washington during his urgent visit. MENA has also learned that during the meeting, also attended by Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali, they made a comprehensive review of Middle East developments in light of the statement by PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat yesterday regarding his recognition of all the UN resolutions relevant to the Palestinian question.

During his visit to Washington, 'Ali will meet with Secretary of State George Shultz, Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger and a number of U.S. officials. He will also meet with congressional groups. 'Ali is expected to meet with U.S. President Ronald Reagan.

During these meetings, 'Ali will hold talks on all proposals to resolve the Lebanese crisis and the Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon, as well as the Middle East problem, at the center of which is the Palestinian problem, which must run parallel with solving the Beirut problem.

'ALI TO DELIVER MUBARAK MESSAGE TO REAGAN

NC261537 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1450 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Text] Cairo, 26 Jul (MENA) -- Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali will leave Cairo for Washington tomorrow morning for a quick visit to the United States during which he will deliver an important message from President Husni Mubarak to U.S. President Ronald Reagan.

MENA has learned that the message reaffirms the importance of an expedient U.S. role to confront the ceaseless bloodshed in Lebanon, the provocative actions in west Beirut and the latest developments in light of the new PLO stand. It also reaffirms the importance of safeguarding the safety of every PLO member.

The message also points out the importance of proceeding toward an immediate settlement of the Lebanese issue parallel with a comprehensive and just settlement of the Palestinian question.

It has been learned that President Mubarak's message to President Reagan also deals with the Middle East situation, including the Iraq-Iran war, the need to end it, and the situation in the Horn of Africa.

On his way to Washington, 'Ali will stop for 1 day in London, where he will hold meetings with British officials on current developments in Lebanon and the Middle East.

On his visit to Washington, where he will arrive on Wednesday, 'Ali will be accompanied by a delegation consisting of Dr Usamah al-Baz, director of the president's office for political affairs and Foreign Ministry first under secretary; Ambassdor Salah Basuyni, director of the Information Department; Ambassador Ra'uf Ghunaym; and Minister Plenipotentiary Muhammad 'Asim Ibrahim.

Message Includes 'Arafat Stand

NC261734 Paris AFP in English 1728 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Text] Cairo, July 26 (AFP) -- The document signed by Palestine Liberation Organization Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, recognizing United Nations resolutions on Palestine, is discussed in a message from President Husni Mubarak to United States President Ronald Reagan, reliable sources said here today.

The sources said the message, to be handed to officials in Washington on Wednesday by Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali, notes that "the Lebanese crisis must be studied in the light of the latest developments in the PLO position."

President Mubarak today said the document signed by Mr 'Arafat was "an excellent initiative and a step in the right direction for a peaceful settlement to the Middle East conflict."

The message repeats the need for a U.S. initiative to end the Lebanese crisis, and stresses the need to "save each member of the PLO," the source said.

Mr 'Ali, who leaves here tomorrow, will stop in London for 24 hours for discussions with British officials on the way to Washington.

'ALI, GHALI CONFER WITH PLO DELEGATION 26 JULY

NC261722 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1655 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Text] Cairo, 26 Jul (MENA) -- Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali held a meeting in the Foreign Ministry today with a PLO delegation. The Egyptian side included Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali and Dr Usamah al-Baz, head of the presidential office for political affairs and Foreign Ministry first under secretary. The PLO delegation included PLO Executive Committee member Dr Sidqi ad-Dajani, Palestine National Council Secretary Muhammad Subayh and Nabil Sha't.

The 2-hour meeting was held within the framework of the intensive contacts between Egypt and the PLO to face the Lebanese crisis and help the Palestinian people in a way that will preserve all their rights and pride. During the meeting, they discussed the latest developments in the area in light of the latest stand that PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has announced. After that, Dr Usamah al-Baz held another meeting with the same Palestinian group, headed by Dr Sidqi ad-Dajani.

AMBASSADOR TO U.S. PRAISES 'ARAFAT MOVE

NC261930 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1815 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Text] Washington, 26 Jul (MENA) -- Dr Ashraf Ghurbal, the Egyptian ambassador in Washington, has described the recent statements by PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat regarding the PLO's stand on Israel as a positive step in the right direction.

The Egyptian ambassador said: If the United States considers that what the PLO said through 'Arafat is insufficient, then the U.S. administration must tell the PLO what it does consider sufficient in order to activate the situation and make progress toward solving the Middle East problem. The Egyptian ambassador urged the U.S. administration to encourage the PLO following this step.

At a breakfast discussion with a group of journalists, Dr Ghurbal emphasized the need to solve the whole Middle East problem through solving the current problem in Beirut. He also stressed the need for a total Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon as a step along the road to a settlement. In the meantime, he emphasized the Palestinians' right to self-determination.

The Egyptian ambassador explained the aims of the French-Egyptian plan, saying that the plan concentrates on a political solution and on mutual recognition between Israel and the PLO as well as on enabling all the countries in the region and the Palestinians to live in peace.

Ghurbal said that the PLO has expressed its readiness to cooperate in this direction, adding that this is a big move by the PLO.

The Egyptian ambassador attacked Israeli actions in the West Bank and Gaza and warned that it is necessary to act to prevent the recurrence of what has happened in Lebanon in the West Bank and Gaza. He said: Egypt has been pained by the Israeli actions in Lebanon, particularly that the events there took place while Egypt was trying to convince the Arabs that a peaceful settlement is the way to attain Arab rights. Israel's actions run counter to the spirit of the Camp David agreement.

Ghurbal asked the United States to use its influence and urge Israel not to repeat these actions.

AL-BAZ CONTACTS LEBANESE PERSONALITIES ON CRISIS

NC261706 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1652 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Text] Cairo, 26 Jul (MENA) -- MENA has learned that Dr Usamah al-Baz, head of the presidential office for political affairs and Foreign Ministry first under secretary, today made several urgent telephone calls to a number of Lebanese personalities in Beirut. These contacts took place within the framework of exchanging views and understanding all points relevant to the Lebanese crisis and in light of what President Mubarak stated in his speech today on this subject.

SLP URGES RECALL OF AMBASSADOR FROM ISRAEL

PM261513 Cairo ASH-SHA'B in Arabic 21 Jul 82 p 2

[Majdi as-Sayyid report: "Ibrahim Shukri Speaks at Weekly Party Gathering"]

[Excerpts] At the weekly gathering of the Socialist Labor Party [SLP] last Tuesday night, SLP leader Engineer Ibrahim Shukri asked: Until when will we continue to respect Israel's feelings when Israel has never respected our feelings, and until when will we refrain from recalling the Egyptian ambassador from Israel and from expelling the Israeli ambassador from Egypt?

The meeting was attended by SLP parliamentary group member Ahmad al-Faqiy, People's Assembly member Fikri al-Jazzar, SLP Higher Committee members 'Abd al-Ghani Sa'id and 'Abbas al-Misri, and a large number of party members and friends.

At the beginning of his speech, Engineer Ibrahim Shukri spoke about the byelection battle.

Turning to the situaion in Bieurt, he said: There are undoubtedly many black aspects to this matter, which is a disgrace to all mankind. However, I can also say that I am optimistic because of the heroic and historic stand taken by the Palestinian Resistance which, in my opinion, marks the beginning of a great awakening in the entire Arab and Islamic world. Frankly and sincerely I say that that Resistance will never be liquidated in this manner. The issue has been transformed from being an issue of people seeking to return to their homeland into an issue of people to be liquidated and wiped out, and into a problem of how to remove the Palestinians from west Beirut, as if this were the original problem.

Sharon has now come up with the arrogant declaration that the solution lies in giving the Palestinians a homeland in Transjordan. We should not be surprised if one day he said that Jews once lived in Medina before Islam and therefore have a right to reclaim it now.

A day might come when Israel will dictate its own terms to the region, telling it what to plant and what to manufacture, or else.

The danger is not far from Egypt. We must rely on ourselves and, above all, we must make the United States and Israel feel we are strong people with dignity. How long will we continue to respect Israel's feelings, and how long will we refrain from recalling the Egyptian ambassador from Israel, something that should have happened as soon as the invasion of southern Lebanon began?

The situation is, clearly, that the men are standing fast and there will be no withdrawal from west Beirut except on Palestinian terms.

People's Assembly member Fikri al-Jazzar then spoke.

MUBARAK, BEGIN EXCHANGE NATIONAL DAY CABLES

GF260421 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1940 GMT 25 Jul 82

[Text] Cairo, 25 Jul (MENA) -- President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has received the following congratulatory cable from Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin:

Your Excellency Muhammad Husni Mubarak, president of the Arab Republic of Egypt:

Please accept my heartfelt congratulations on the national day of the Arab Republic of Egypt and on 'Id al-Fitr. I send you, your country, your people, all Muslims in Egypt [word indistinct] Israel the best wishes and sincerest congratulations. We have made broad strides on the road of peace between our countries and we have surmounted many obstacles in our path. We have lived through hard times in the last few weeks [words indistinct] for clear reasons and we have to wait until after the current events.

(?The agreements) of Camp David and the peace treaty between Egypt and Israel are revolutionary changes in the Middle East, and I believe more steps should be taken so peace can be achieved in our region. We have to do our utmost to achieve this noble goal.

President Mubarak has sent the following reply cable to Begin:

Menahem Begin, prime minister of Israel: It pleases me to send you and the Israeli people my sincerest gratitude for your congratulations on the blessed 'Id al-Fitr and on our country's national day. I express to you and to your people my best wishes. Peace is a noble goal that deserves that we exert all our efforts to achieve it regardless of the obstacles obstructing our way. If the current events have left a negative impact on the peace process, we must exceed it (?through the spirit) of Camp David hoping for (?a better future) so that a just and permanent peace will prevail in the Middle East.

NAVON, MUBARAK EXCHANGE MESSAGES ON 'ID AL-FITR

GF230526 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1900 GMT 22 Jul 82

[Text] Cairo, 22 Jul (MENA) -- President Husni Mubarak has received a congratulatory cable from Israeli President Yitzhaq Navon on the occasion of 'Id al-Fitr and the anniversary of the 23 July Revolution. Following is the text of the cable:

Your Excellency, Husni Mubarak, president of the Arab Republic of Egypt:

It pleases me very much to (?cable) Your Excellency to personally express to you and to the entire Egyptian people my congratulations and the congratulations of the Israeli people on the happy blessed occasion of 'Id al-Fitr and the anniversary of the 23 July Revolution.

(?We also) wish to convey best wishes for peace and prosperity and fruitful greetings. I am sure relations between our peoples will be based on more understanding and deep friendship. Please accept my respect and best wishes.

President Husni Mubarak also sent a reply message to Israeli President Yitzhaq Navon, the text of which follows:

President of the State of Israel: I thank you and the Israeli people for your congratulations on the blessed occasion of 'Id al-Fitr and the anniversary of the 23 July Revolution, affirming to Your Excellency our complete support and active participation in every effort to establish peace based on justice in the Middle East so that the peoples of the entire region will live in security, safety and stability. I offer my sincere respect and best wishes.

SAUDI, QATARI, BAHRAINI LEADERS CABLE MUBARAK

NC261622 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1520 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Text] Cairo, 26 Jul (MENA) -- President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has received the following cable of thanks from His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, monarch of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, in reply to his cable of greetings on the occasion of 'Id al-Fitr:

I have received Your Excellency's cable dated 2/10/1402 Hegira [22 July 1982]. While expressing my profound appreciation and gratitude for your congratulations and good wishes on the occasion of the blessed 'Id al-Fitr, I implore Almighty God that you, the fraternal people of the Arab Republic of Egypt and the Arab and Islamic nation again celebrate this occasion under conditions of prosperity, welfare and blessings and unity of word and rank to achieve this nation's dignity and victory and realize its hopes and aspirations. With my sincerest greetings and regards.

President Mubarak also received the following cable of thanks from the amir of the State of Qatar, Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani:

I have received with profound gratitude and appreciation your kind congratulations on the occasion of the blessed 'Id al-Fitr. While expressing my sincerest gratitude for your noble sentiments and my sincere wishes to you, I implore Almighty God that you will be able to celebrate this occasion again enjoying abundant health and happiness and that the fraternal people of the Arab Republic of Egypt and the peoples of the Arab and Islamic nation will be able to celebrate it again under conditions of prosperity and welfare. I also invoke God to unite our hearts and our lot so as to achieve for our Arab and Islamic nation the dignity, victory and sovereignty to which it aspires. With my best wishes for Your Excellency and profound fraternal appreciation and regards.

President Mubarak has also received a cable of thanks on this occasion from Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, the amir of the State of Bahrain.

FRANCE TO PROVIDE EQUIPMENT FOR NUCLEAR STATIONS

GF270637 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 27 Jul 82

[Text] Engineer Mahir Abaza, minister of electricity and energy, has announced that an agreement will be signed with the French Government early next year to provide equipment and machinery to install the first two nuclear power stations in Egypt, to be set up in Ad-Daba'ah on the northern coast.

BRIEFS

FRG ENERGY AID -- Cairo, July 23 (MENA) -- The Federal Republic of Germany has agreed to provide Egypt with four mechanised units as a grant to the Ministry of Electricity and Energy to be exploited in lifting subterranean waters with a capacity of 20 kilowatt per hour through the winds power. Dr 'Imad ash-Shuruqi, deputy chairman of the electricity authority, said upon return here from Bonn that these units will be used in technical researches which are currently conducted to cultivate new lands in Owanat, south west Egypt. [Excerpt] [Cairo MENA in English 1135 GMT 23 Jul 82 GF]

REPORTAGE ON IRANIAN ARMED FORCES INVASION

Commander Sends Message to Husayn

JN240740 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0720 GMT 24 Jul 82

[Text] Baghdad, 24 Jul (INA) -- The staff brigadier general in command of the Al-Miqdad forces has stated that the attacking Iranian enemy forces were scattered before they could reach the positions of his forces east of Basra last night.

In a message to President Saddam Husayn this morning he said that, as usual, the enemy had left its dead, wounded and weapons on the battlefield and some of its forces were captured.

The commanding officer of the Al-Miqdad forces pledged to President Saddam Husayn that his forces would continue to remain the loyal guards who would protect Iraq's borders and defeat all the enemy's attempts to harm the Iraqi people's sovereignty and dignity.

Communique No 788

JN241644 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1604 GMT 24 Jul 82

[Communique No 788 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 24 July]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. In order that the Iraqis may live in their own homeland and on their own soil with freedom, dignity and glory, our victorious forces continue their confrontation of the Iranian aggression and the rancorous Khomenyite clique that is carrying out adventures and gambling with its defeated forces and the sons of the Iranian peoples, who are afflicted with its tyranny, charlatanism and blunders.

The results of the operations at the front were as follows:

1. Our units continued to pound enemy forces with various weapons in the Basra sector, inflicting on them heavy losses in men and materiel. It has been ascertained that, as a result of their abortive attack on our units in the Basra sector last night -- an attack which was completely defeated and whose attacking force was completely annihilated -- the enemy forces suffered 2,507 dead, including those announced in our communique this morning; a very great number of wounded and captured; and a number of tanks and vehicles and a great quantity of medium and light weapons and equipment destroyed.

2. Our helicopters carried out fierce attacks against enemy positions and concentrations east of Basra today and inflicted on them heavy losses in men and materiel. Flames and columns of smoke were seen in enemy positions. All our helicopters returned safely to base.

3. One of our forward units in the central sector of the front sighted a group of enemy personnel attempting to approach our positions. Our forces pounded them and forced them to flee leaving behind five dead and one vehicle destroyed.

4. The mean Iranian enemy has shelled our residential areas and economic installations in the cities of Basra and Khanaqin and the village of Zurbatiyah. Two of our citizens were martyred and seven others were injured. Material damage was also sustained.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 24 July 1982

Communique No 789

JN251630 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1604 GMT 25 Jul 82

[Communique No 789 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 25 July]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Iraq's banner will remain high, its soil and dignity preserved and the heads of its sons high under its triumphant leader Saddam Husayn. The great Iraqi people and their brave army will continue their just fight against the clique of evil and charlatanism in Tehran. The results of the operations were as follows:

1. Last night an enemy force attempted to approach the positions of the brave Muhammad al-Qasim forces east of Basra. The Muhammad al-Qasim forces confronted and clashed with it, using various weapons and inflicted heavy losses. The known dead numbered 198; a great many were wounded or taken prisoner and various weapons and serviceable equipment captured.

At dawn today an enemy force approached the positions of the Salah ad-Din forces east of Basra. Our forces clashed with the enemy force, using various weapons, and forced it to retreat after suffering eight killed and a number of wounded. A number of various serviceable weapons were captured.

It has been ascertained that as a result of its abortive attack on the Al-Miqdad forces on the night of 23-24 July, the enemy suffered 1,147 dead in addition to those mentioned in Armed Forces General Command Communique No 788 issued yesterday. Thus, the total known enemy losses following its abortive attack on the Al-Miqdad forces on the night of 23-24 July amount to 3,654 dead, a number of men captured and a number of tanks and various vehicles destroyed.

2. Our helicopters attacked enemy positions and concentrations east of Basra today scoring effective hits and returning safely to base.

3. The rancorous Iranian enemy shelled residential areas and economic installations in Basra, Zurbatiyah and Khanaqin today causing losses and damage in these cities.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 25 July 1982

Communique No 790

JN261550 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1525 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Text] Baghdad, 26 Jul (INA) -- The Iraqi Armed Forces General Command has stressed that our forces will continue to strike at the Iranian regime's forces until this regime abandons its hostile intentions, respects good-neighborly relations and stops interfering Iraq's internal affairs. A military communique issued here late this afternoon put Iranian losses during the past 24 hours at six killed and four vehicles destroyed. It pointed out that 6 Iraqi citizens were martyred and 22 others wounded during the Iranian artillery shelling of the residential areas in Basra yesterday evening. The following is the text of communique:

Communique No 790 issued by the Armed Forces General Command. In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

The glorious sons of the Tigris and Euphrates continue their courageous activities against the forces of the clique ruling in Iran until this clique returns to its senses, abandons its wicked hostile intentions against our people and chaste land, respects good-neighborly relations and stops interfering in our internal affairs.

The results of the activities carried out yesterday evening and today were as follows:

1. Our forward units pounded enemy positions and units east of Basra, killing five, wounding several others and destroying three vehicles -- one of which was loaded with hardware -- and two hardware stockpiles.

2. One was killed and one vehicle destroyed in the northern sector of the battlefield.

3. The Iranian enemy shelled residential areas in Basra yesterday evening martyring civilians and wounding 22 others.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 26 July 1982

INA REFUTES IRNA REPORT ON RECENT BASRA BATTLES

JN261644 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1600 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Text] Baghdad, 26 Jul (INA) -- The Iranian News Agency has tried to cast doubt on the extent of Iraq's victories in the battles waged east of Basra and to belittle the Iranian forces' losses in a manner that arouses ridicule.

The Iranian News Agency claims that what has been reported by the international media, shown by the world's television stations and photographed by satellites does not reflect the true situation on the battlefield east of Basra during the last 2 weeks. It has called on Iraq to send correspondents to the actual battlefields to see the victories scored by the Islamic forces on Iraq's territory.

The INA commentator has said we would not have bothered to reply to these blunt remarks had they not been related to Iraq's information policy, which is based on opening the door for all to know and speak the truth which has been known to all since the beginning of the aggression on 4 September 1980. He added sarcastically that the Iranian News Agency, which wants to undermine or obscure facts by levelling accusations and casting doubts, has forgotten the fact that the battlefield has two sides: An Iraqi side which we have managed to show to journalists with all that is revealed there and an Iranian side to which journalists and correspondents have no access.

The commentator asks: Why does Iran not invite journalists to see the battlefield and identify the burned weapons? He added the reason for Tehran's disregard of such an invitation and for Tehran's attempt to cast doubt on the reports of the international news media is to conceal facts. He said that IRNA forgets or pretends to forget that the tanks and vehicles which it said are left on the battlefield after the war are made of the strongest possible iron that cannot be obliterated or eroded by the wind and heat.

The commentator points out that the IRNA commentary is considered good evidence and a frank confession of the failure of the Iranian offensive against Iraq. Otherwise, why should Tehran tell such tales and make such accusations?

In conclusion, the commentator says: Tehran can invite correspondents to visit the battlefield and become acquainted with its forces' victories, which are scored inside offices. Such a visit will determine which of the two sides is giving correct information.

AMMAN RADIO COMMENTS ON 'ARAFAT DOCUMENT

JN261906 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Unattributed commentary: "The Historic Opportunity and the Conditional Acceptance"]

[Text] McCloskey's statement that he is personally acquainted with a document signed by Yasir 'Arafat in which the latter accepted the UN Security Council and General Assembly resolutions is the most import news in the Middle East since 1967 and constitutes one of our most important turning points.

This importance stems from two factors in the course of the Palestinian cause. These two factores, which are important on the level of the Palestinian cause and on the international level, can be summarized as follows:

First, the United States, urged by the fascist Israeli instransigence, has sought with all its efforts to avoid entering into negotiations with the PLO in its capacity as the Palestinian people's legitimate representative, using this excuse as a means to avoid the settlement of the Palestinian cause. The United States continued to use this excuse to freeze the cause of peace and that of the Palestinian people. This took the form of a political expression when Kissinger pledged in 1975 that the United States would not negotiate with the PLO unless the PLO accepted UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338. The PLO continued to reject these two resolutions because they deal with the Palestinian issue as an issue of refugees and not with a people and their rights. Most of the interpretations of these two resolutions continued to remain incomplete while UN General Assembly resolutions issued on the subject, though lacking the same binding force of the latter, have remedied the deficiency of the UN Security Council resolutions because they deal with the Palestinians as a people and not as refugees and consider the PLO as the Palestinian people's representaitve and not as some kind of organization.

Thus, news agency reports about McCloskey's statement that PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat has accepted the UN Security Council and General Assembly resolutions mean that the PLO's acceptance of Resolutions 242 and 338 is conditional and remedying the deficiency existing in these these two resolutions by the UN General Assembly resolutions which clearly define the Palestinian people's legitimate rights.

This political merger between the two complementary parts of the resolutions, which if put together would alone achieve the objectives of the PLO and the Palestinian people, can be considered as an advanced political position the PLO has taken and as a stand that would be effective on the international level and that would remedy the deficiency in the UN Security Council resolutions and safeguard the Palestinian cause within a sound framework on the pan-Arab and international levels.

It appears the PLO is telling the world and the United States the following: If you want to implement Resolutions 242 and 338, then complete them with UN General Assembly resolutions. While this is the most integrated political expression on the Palestinian cause within the framework of all the other solutions that are under discussion, it has taken such a form for the first time.

This is the first factor concerning the importance of 'Arafat's acceptance.

The second factor is that this stand is a test for two principal parties: Israel and the United States. The Israel meant is not the Likud government and the other fascist and intransigent factions surrounding it, but a test to the Jewish people who hear for the first time in clear terms that the PLO accepts Resolutions 242 and 338 under the condition that they be accompanied by UN General Assembly resolutions. Any logical Israeli who wishes to enjoy stability and just peace in the region can no longer view the PLO as a hostile force. Any Israeli who has come to hate war and desire peace can no longer approve the fascist intransigence called for by the Likud and all the others who are enthusiastic about war and killing, without feeling responsible for the victims on both sides. What is as important is the fact that the United States can no longer officially avoid negotiating with the PLO and take this excuse as a means for neglecting and freezing the Palestinian cause. For the first time since 1975, Kissinger's excuse has been voided. The excuse that the PLO must accept Resolutions 242 and 338 has become an empty excuse since the PLO has accepted the two resolutions on the condition that the UN General Assembly resolutions are implemented too.

Thus, if the United States wants the two UN Security Council resolutions to achieve results, it has to accept the UN General Assembly resolutions, pass over the obstruction that Kissinger created concerning the issue of direct negotiations with the PLO and consider it as a party equal to all the other parties in the Middle East issue.

This historic opportunity puts all the parties to the test. It also provides an opportunity to achieve a just peace and an honorable settlement and strongly expresses a responsible, courageous, positive and revolutionary stand.

JORDAN TIMES ON U.S. RESPONSE TO 'ARAFAT ACTION

JN270817 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 27 Jul 82 p 4

[Editorial: "Pathetic Reaction to a Solid Move"]

[Text] For many years Israel has maintained that the one obstacle in the way of all peace efforts has been the Palestine Liberation Organisation's (PLO) "determination to destroy the State of Israel", and the United States of America, accepting this argument, has insisted that the organisation's recognition of Israel must precede its own recognition of the PLO.

However, now that the PLO leader, Mr Yasir 'Arafat, has accepted U.N. resolutions on the Middle East, including a conditional recognition of Israel's right to exist, we are surprised by the muted reaction to this development.

The U.S., on the one hand urges "extreme caution" in assessing the note signed by Mr 'Arafat; while on the other, Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir described the note as "just an exercise in deceit." Nor was the Israeli press less sceptical in its reaction to the move. Israeli press editorials could only see in all this "an old trick" (MA'ARIV) and "a transparent bid to win U.S. recognition" (THE JERUSALEM POST). Not one voice in America or Israel talks about the "obstacle in the way of peace efforts" having possibly been removed; nor has it.

The stumbling block before which all peace efforts failed was none other than Israel's intransigence, and belligerence, and America's blind and mindless support of this attitude. Israel has shown its true colours and unmasked its ugly face by scorning this as it has every other peace approach by the Arabs; and America is showing its true colours by failing to pressure Israel to look for peace. It is all reminiscent of the statement made by the late Moshe Dayan when he was Israel's defence minister that given the choice between Sinai and peace he would prefer to keep Sinai.

Israel's reaction to this peace effort was to escalate the bombardment of Beirut (possibly in preparation of storming it) coupled with an unprecedented wave of land expropriation in the occupied West Bank as Bethlehem Mayor Ilyas Frayj tells us.

It is time the Arabs realised that Israel wants nothing less than taking Arab land and enslaving Arab people, and that, in the end, Israel has America's support in this pursuit.

AD-DUSTUR COMMENTS ON MUBARAK'S 26 JULY SPEECH

JN271046 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 27 Jul 82

[Press review]

[Text] Under the headline "A Call in the Right Direction," AD-DUSTUR says: The speech delivered by Egyptian President Husni Mubarak yesterday included frank, logical opinions and clear, specific stands worth noting because they are linked with all the problems and urgent issues facing the Arab nation. They also show Egypt's desire and willingness to shoulder the responsibility of confronting the dangers and challenges facing the Arab world.

Egypt's stand on the Palestine issue, as explained by President Mubarak in his speech, has not weakened as a result of the Camp David accords with which As-Sadat has afflicted Egypt. Mubarak was firm on the need to recognize the Palestinian people's rights and his request that the United States tackle the Palestine cause. Furthermore, Egypt's condemnation of the Israeli aggression against the Palestinian and Lebanese people, considering it a violation of the spirit of peace, leaves no doubt about Egypt's desire to work and move within the framework of Arab solidarity.

AD-DUSTUR adds: We praise President Mubarak's frank, clear rejection of settling the Palestine issue at the expense of Jordan. Mubarak stressed that these Israeli ideas are rejected on the Jordanian, Palestinian, Egyptian, Arab and international levels because they encroach on the sovereignty of an Arab country which enjoys international status. These antagonistic ideas aim at liquidating the Palestinian people's right to return to their homeland and territory.

In a clear, frank condemnation of the Iranian aggression against Iraq, President Mubarak called on world countries, particularly the major powers, to declare their stands on the Iranian aggression on the Iraqi territory and Iran's rejection of all mediation efforts to settle conflict by peaceful means.

AD-DUSTUR concludes: The Egyptian president's call for cooperation and consultation within the Nonaligned Movement on all these grave issues reminds us of his call for an Arab summit to confront the critical stage which the Arab nation is passing through. This call is worthy of our complete response, because the summit will pave the way for clearing the Arab atmosphere of all conflicts and contradictions and will make us devote all our potentials and efforts to facing the dangers threatening the Arab nation in Lebanon, the West Bank, the Gaza Strip, the Gulf and the Horn of Africa. These dangers make it incumbent on the Arabs to meet and unite against danger. Thus, the Arab summit is an urgent necessity to mobolize potentials and capabilities to defend Arab existence against continuous dangers and challenges.

KING HUSAYN MEETS WITH BRITISH OFFICIALS

For reportage on King Husayn's visit to London, including his 22 July meeting with Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and contacts with other British officials, see the United Kingdom section of the 26 July Western Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

PHALANGIST SCORES CONGRESSMAN'S REMARK ON BEIRUT

NC261626 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Text] The official spokesman in the Lebanese Forces Command Council has categorically denied the statement that a U.S. congressional delegation member attributed to Shaykh Bashir al-Jumayyil regarding his indifference toward the fate of west Beirut. He said the commander of the Lebanese Forces has constantly and continuously acted to save west Beirut since the beginning of the Israeli operation. All his notices and contacts have focused on this issue. Contrary to what has been reported, Shaykh Bashir al-Jumayyil, during a Voice of Lebanon program on Saturday, 24 July, emphasized the urgent need to save west Beirut from the tragedy it is suffering and the perils surrounding it.

BEIRUT NOTES LACK OF PLO CRITICISM OF 'ARAFAT

NC262157 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Text] Unofficial sources in Beirut today said Yasir 'Arafat's initiative represents a move by him in the direction of the United States before anything else, which is the main reason that prompted 'Arafat to hand over the document, which represents a turning point in the political stand of the Palestinian leader, to the U.S. delegation.

Observers point out that none of the main PLO leaders who are in west Beirut has criticized 'Arafat's initiative 24 hours after signing the document, despite the fact that a summit meeting was held last night to discuss the issue.

SALAM MAKES STATEMENT AFTER MEETING WITH SARKIS

NC261412 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Text] President Ilyas Sarkis received [former] Prime Minister Sa'ib Salam in the Presidential Palace at noon today. Attending the meeting were the prime minister and the foreign minister. After the meeting Salam made the following statement:

[Begin recording] Under these circumstances, it was necessary to hold this meeting today with their excellencies and the president, the prime minister and Minister Fu'ad Butrus. Of course, we discussed all the important issues, beginning with the Israeli occupation of the homeland and ending with the issue of safeguarding Lebanon through the legitimate government and extending its authority throughout Lebanon and to all Lebanese factions everywhere. I am giving away no secret when I say we have many duties. We must take this into consideration in light of cooperation to safeguard Lebanon -- its unity, people, land and sovereignty. This is important and everything else is secondary. This can be ensured only through cooperation by all the sons of Lebanon. Lebanon is passing through many difficulties that must be taken into consideration and given due attention. I appeal to all Lebanese -- I am appealing not just to Muslims. I am appealing to the Lebanese citizens -- both Muslims and Christians -- that in these hard times of the destructive Israeli occupation, all of us and the legitimate government must realize and shoulder our responsibility with cooperation, brotherhood and love. [end recording]

Asked about his views on the nomination of Shaykh Bashir al-Jumayyil for the presidency, Salam said: I am going to the Chamber of Deputies and hope to give my views there because this issue is a matter for that chamber. As I have said, we have many duties which we must tackle one by one.

SALAM STRESSES CHRISTIAN, MUSLIM COOPERATION

NC261627 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Text] Following a 1-hour meeting with Chamber of Deputies Speaker Al-As'ad, [former] Prime Minister Sa'ib Salam said: First, Lebanon was established based on harmony between its two [Christian and Muslim] wings, without which it cannot survive. I consider the Constitution as the fence of the homeland that enables the legitimate government to survive and continue. We must tackle our affairs on this premise.

Salam refused to answer any question concerning the nomination of Shaykh Bashir al-Jumayyil for the presidency.

AL-WAZZAN COMMENTS ON 26 JULY PALACE MEETING

NC261427 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Text] Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan has commented on the [Palestinian] document. This is reported by our correspondent at the Presidential Palace:

[Begin recording of correspondent's report] The meeting of President Sarkis, Prime Minister al-Wazzan and [Foreign Minister Butrus, which was held in the Presidential Palace, ended a while ago. Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan has made a statement in which he talked about the subjects dealt with during this meeting. This is the statement of the prime minister, in his own voice: [end recording]

[Begin Al-Wazzan recording] In fact, we know no more than any one else. It has been circulated widely and commented on by many sides on the domestic and international levels. We cannot give an opinion on this subject without collating all confirmed information relating to it. However, what the Palestinians see as serving their cause will be supported and blessed by us, especially if this leads to their return to their national soil. This helps solve our national Lebanese issue here.

[Question by unidentified correspondent] In another domain, Mr Prime Minister, there is a meeting scheduled this coming Wednesday for the Arab foreign ministers [words indistinct]. Has a final Lebanese stance been clarified regarding this meeting?

[Answer] I believe this stance has been crystallized already. This was done in the clear stands which Lebanon conveyed to all those concerned including the U.S. envoy, Philip Habib. Doubtless, each day is full of new events. We will continue to hold contacts and consultations until the Lebanese delegation goes to the Saudi Arabian Kingdom. This will take place soon, as you know.

[Question] Will Minister Butrus personally participate in this meeting?

[Answer] It has been agreed during the Cabinet session that Minister Butrus will head the delegation which we will form tomorrow, God willing.

[Question] [Words indistinct] from envoy Habib?

[Answer] We have received some information and reports on this tour and what has been achieved so far. We hope this will include some positive things which would help us in our stances.

[Question] Mr Prime Minister, will the discussion in At-Ta'if be confined to the content of the Lebanese working paper?

[Answer] What will be discussed in At-Ta'if goes beyond our Lebanese issue. It will deal with the Palestinian issue in particular. Our Lebanese issue will also be discussed in the same manner it has been presented by the two Arab ministers [Saudi and Syrian foreign ministers] in Washington. This encourages us to participate in the six-member committee and to discuss the subjects presented.

[Question] [Words indistinct] it has been said that the foreign ministers will meet after the six-member committee. Have you been informed of anything in this respect?

[Answer] We have not yet been informed of anything. But I believe the six-member committee stemming from a general meeting by the Arab foreign ministers will join the ministers group.

[Question] We would like to hear your comment on Egypt's rejection as host to the Resistance fighters. Is this true? Have you received anything on this subject?

[Answer] We have received nothing regarding this subject. We may after Mr Habib returns. [end recording]

BUTRUS TO HEAD DELEGATION TO ARAB MEETING

NC261339 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Text] Foreign Minister Fu'ad Butrus will leave Beirut for Cyprus and then for Jidda on Wednesday to lead the Lebanese delegation to the six-member Arab committee meeting to be held in Jidda to assess the results of the talks held by Arab delegations in the capitals of some big powers.

The foreign minister will be accompanied by a delegation including Lebanese Ambassador to Tunisia and Permanent Representative to the Arab League Husayn al-'Abdallah, Lebanese Ambassador to Morocco Dr 'Adil Isma'il, Lebanese Ambassador to Saudi Arabia Zafir al-Hasan, Adviser in the Foreign Ministry Samir Mubarak and a high-ranking army officer.

The foreign minister went to his office at the Foreign Ministry this morning and had a meeting with Secretary General Kasrawan Labaki during which they reviewed the diplomatic reports and cables received from Lebanese missions abroad on the Arab and international diplomatic moves concerning the situation in Lebanon.

Minister Butrus also sent instructions to the permanent Lebanese delegate to the United Nations Ghassan Tuwayni outlining the note, which Lebanon has decided to submit to the Security Council president and members and the UN secretary general, to protest Israel's actions in the south, its air raids on populated areas in Beirut and its violation of the cease-fire.

Al-Wazzan Denies Group Formed

NC261942 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Text] Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan has denied that the Lebanese delegation to the six-member Arab committee conference to be held on Wednesday in At-Ta'if has been formed. Al-Wazzan said this issue will be discussed at the meeting to be held at the Presidential Palace tomorrow, Tuesday.

UN AID TO RESTORE AUTHORITY IN SOUTH SOUGHT

NC262144 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Text] Lebanon today appealed to the United Nations to extend to it the military support necessary to restore its authority in the areas where the Israeli invasion forces have set up their own departments.

In a message to UN Secretary General Peres de Cuellar, Lebanese UN Ambassador Ghassan Tuwayni said the UN forces in Lebanon have the authority to help. In his message, Tuwayni referred to the 1978 Security Council resolution which permits these forces to help the Lebanese Government regain its authority. Tuwayni added that he received instructions from his government to draw attention to what he termed Israel's violation of all forms of international law by occupying southern Lebanon. He said: Israel has not been content with the continuous acts of violence and bestiality which have caused much damage and claimed inestimable csaualties. It is now setting up local departments disregarding the legitimate Lebanese authorities in the various cities and villages in Lebanon.

Ghassan Tuwayni said: Lebanese President Ilyas Sarkis raised this issue at the Cabinet meeting last Saturday and expressed his deep concern over the kidnapping of a member of parliament who was visiting the area and over the attacks against the Lebanese Army's barracks and members of the Lebanese security forces. Tuwayni added that the government has asked the UN secretary general to exert every effort to help reform the situation. He also said Lebanon suggests that instructions be given to the UN force to help the Lebanese authorities carry out their duties. Tuwayni continued: We want you to be assured that the UN force, which is carrying out its activities in the area, can discharge this task in accordance with its present commission as stipulated in Security Council Resolution 425 of 1978.

Tuwayni requested that his message be circulated as a Security Council document.

MILITARY SPOKESMAN ON SHELLING OF W. BEIRUT

NC261225 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1145 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Text] The military spokesman of the Joint Forces Central Command has commented on the enemy's continued shelling of Beirut saying: The enemy has claimed he is besieging Beirut, that he has ceased fire and has given Philip Habib such and such a time limit while he is, in fact, implementing his wicked designs to destroy the city of Beirut and kill the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples in a systematic and continuous manner. This is after he has become sure of the steadfastness of our heroes in the joint forces and his inability to harm them and shake their steadfastness. What confirms this is:

1. The artillery shelling from land and sea has become a daily affair since the beginning of the siege.

2. The city witnessed many air raids during the first days of the siege. These raids became intermittent later on. However, for the past 5 days they have been carried out on a daily basis.

3. In his bombardment the enemy is using cluster and phosphorous bombs as well as heavy aircraft rockets, which can completely destroy a building, as has happened in many places.

4. The area of west Beirut is extremely limited. Most quarters in it, such as Ar-Ramlah al-Bayda', Al-Awza'i, Burj al-Barajinah, Hayy as-Sullum, Al-Laylakah, Sabra, Shatila, the sports city, Al-Fakihani, and the airport area have become an open field of fire attacked by aircraft at one time and by ground artillery and naval guns at another time.

5. When the enemy shells the city from the land, he uses more than eight batteries of 155-mm artillery in addition to regular artillery, mortar and tank guns. His shells land in most of the attacked areas.

ISRAELIS CUT OFF W. BEIRUT'S POWER, WATER SUPPLY

NC270652 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 27 Jul 82

[Excerpt] Yesterday afternoon the Israelis again cut off the electricity and water supply to west Beirut. Mahmud 'Ammar, the electricity and water resources minister, has stated that an Israeli occupation force entered the electricity station in Al-Karantina at 1655 yesterday and cut off the power supply to west Beirut. Six Israeli soldiers were kept in the station. The technicians were warned against resuming the supply. Electricity was cut off from all quarters of west Beirut, affecting telephone communications as well.

At 1750 yesterday, another Israeli unit went to the water station in Al-Ashrafiyah and stopped the pumping to west Beirut. Minister 'Ammar pointed out that the supply of water to west Beirut will completely stop as of today.

TASK OF DETERRENT FORCES COMMANDER ENDED

NC261304 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Text] The task of Brig Gen Sami al-Khatib as the commander of the [Arab] Deterrent Forces has been ended. He has been informed by the Presidential Palace of the termination of his duty in this capacity. He will, however, be the representative of the president of the republic for coordination between the Lebanese Government and the Syrian side. This task will be terminated (?tomorrow).

CP LEADER HAWI CALLS FOR 'NATIONAL UNITY'

PM261345 Paris L'HUMANITE in French 20 Jul 82 p 6

[Lebanese Communist Party Secretary General Georges Hawi interviewed by Alain Wasmes in Beirut on 19 July]

[Text] Beirut -- "The Israeli aggression may open the Lebanese people's eyes and make them realize that as long as they are divided into factions they will be unable to exploit international inconsistencies but, instead, are playing into other people's hands...." Lebanese Communist Party [LCP] Secretary General Georges Hawi, calm and serene but wearing a revolver in his belt, revealed to us his thoughts on the present situation and the future of Lebanon and the Arab world.

His remarks were particularly important on the subject of the new opportunity to unite the Lebanese people against the Israeli occupation. That might be done particularly through a dialogue which seemed inconceivable hardly more than 1 month ago, between the Nationalist Movement and the Phalangist Party, fierce adversaries during the Lebanese civil war, whose leaders Walid Junblatt and Bashir al-Jumayyil have just had a meeting.

"The most important thing in Lebanon's history cannot be said to have been resistance to foreign invasions but rather civil wars in which each of the sides in the conflict tended to call on a foreign power to support it. Unfortunately, that tendency persists. Our party and some circles in the Nationalist Movement think it is now necessary to create the right conditions for regrouping all Lebanese people around a patriotic platform.

"We hoped the Phalangists would not back the Israeli aggression despite that fact that we were well aware they would not oppose it either militarily or politically. In that case we thought we could regroup all Lebanese people behind a minimum program of demanding the Israeli army's withdrawal; continuing to support and help the Palestinian Resistance, no longer in the form of an armed presence in Lebanon but in the diplomatic and political sphere; and settling security questions in Lebanon by Lebanese efforts, without the presence of the Arab Deterrent Force (essentially Syrians -- L'HUMANITE editor's note). We had expressed the desire to be able to come together in support of a joint program with that aim.

"Unfortunately, the Phalangists have shown they can be worse than the Israelis against their political adversaries and the population who do not share their religious background. Moreover, in southern Lebanon and in the mountains, the Israelis are trying to exploit that and to pose as arbiters.

"But we have not abandoned that plan. And we are going to continue to call for the unity of the nation, the people and the forces which want a united, independent and sovereign Lebanon supporting a minimum program.

"That is why Walid Junblatt met Bashir al-Jumayyil, and that is why the Nationalist Movement will continue the preliminary talks with Bashir al-Jumayyil but also with other circles in the hope that those approaches can make up for the Lebanese authorities' passive attitude.

With regard to contacts with Bashir al-Jumayyil and the Phalangist Party, Georges Hawi said he detected a new "positive" attitude among the latter. But the proximity of next month's elections for the Presidency of the Lebanese Republic led him to express fundamental reservations.

"Bashir al-Jumayyil should not count on the Israeli occupation, because anything which comes from outside is foreign. And we hope he has not started negotiations with the Nationalist Movement with the sole aim of becoming president of the republic. For if that were the case, negotiations would be abandoned.

"It seems possible to reach a national accord on the basis of negotiations between the Nationalist Movement and the Phalangist Party which would pave the way for broader negotiations involving all the country's religious factions.

"We can achieve positive results if Bashir al-Jumayyil is prepared to discuss the program of the Presidency of the republic and above all if he reaches agreement with the Nationalist Movement, with the Islamic grouping on a candidate other than himself.

"If he insists on running, there will be no way out. In the present context Bashir al-Jumayyil cannot be president of a united Lebanon. There is a violent dispute with him, which cannot change in 1 month. A long period is necessary to convince Lebanese people from all factions who have been scarred by what has happened in the past 7 years, of the possibility of living without fascist domination. Wounds must be given time to heal. If Bashir al-Jumayyil refuses, he will be responsible for aggravating the situation."

[Question] Who could be the candidate for that joint program?

[Answer] Such an accord could make it possible to extend President Sarkis' mandate for a certain period, but on a new basis which would make it possible to create those new conditions.... [answer ends]

The LCP secretary general, who is very critical of the official Lebanese authorities' attitude, especially of President Sarkis' present silence, thinks however that a change is now coming about even among those "who initially sincerely applauded the Israeli invasion, in other words those unconnected with imperialist interests."

According to him, that is true of the national bourgeoisie -- "mainly Christians who see more clearly the dangers which the Israeli plan represents not only for the left in Lebanon, not only for the liberation movement, but for all that Lebanon represents on the economic level, the Lebanon of religious pluralism, democratic freedom, an open-door policy and all that made up Lebanon's character."

Georges Hawi thinks it is clear that the Israeli plan is aimed at partitioning Lebanon into four ministates: "one dominated by Israel in southern Lebanon, one under Syrian control in Al-Biqa' and the north, a Christian state with part of Mount Lebanon and of Beirut, and finally the remainder of Lebanon, Ash-Shuf and the west of the capital.... But what is not clear," he stressed, "is the U.S. stance. Does the United States still want a united Lebanon? How much conflict is there between it and Israel?"

"I think the Israeli demands are such that they cannot be attained peacefully on either the Palestinian or the Lebanese level. Israel will make every effort to impose a military solution. It is on that point that there is a question on the possible differences of opinion with the United States. How far do the Americans, who have a general strategy for the whole Arab world, want to go, and are they capable of preventing a military solution?

"The military assault on west Beirut is becoming increasingly difficult today. But there is still a risk that it could happen. However, west Beirut, with all that it represents, is the symbol of the possible unity of a future Lebanon.

"If it is invaded, if its inhabitants are massacred, I am almost sure that the country's unity will no longer be possible. There has been renewed talk for some days of a new Kissinger mission. The Lebanese remember the Kissinger plan for the Middle East, and in certain circles the fear of seeing the United States back the Israeli plan is more acute today than it was some time ago."

"Those circles are wondering why U.S. negotiator Habib is in no hurry to reach a solution when there are real possibilities of overcoming Beirut's present tragedy: Nobody is now discussing the maintenance of the Palestinian military presence in Beirut. They are only discussing means of evacuating the fedayeen and guarantees for that evacuation, for Palestinian civilians and for the Lebanese Muslims and progressives.

"I am absolutely sure the Palestinian Resistance at present has a revolutionary, realistic and united leadership headed by 'Arafat. And I am sure it is unanimous in all the decisions it has taken and it is going to face the threat of an imminent assault on Beirut.

"And I am also sure all the Palestinians and with them the whole Nationalist Movement and the overwhelming majority of Beirut's civilian population will fight if a political solution guaranteeing three conditions is not found: an honorable exit for the Palestinian fighters, protection of the Palestinian civilian presence, and Lebanese stability."

Georges Hawi also discussed the Syrian position: "The present situation is forcing Lebanese and Palestinian patriots and the Syrians to take one stance in face of the Israeli aggression in Lebanon. We believe that that unity can and should exist. That is why Walid Junblatt went to Damascus to discuss the need for a common stance.

"I am well aware that U.S. intentions, and those of some Lebanese circles, are aimed at ensuring that the final part of this war is not between Israel and the Arabs but among the Arabs themselves, notably the Syrians and Palestinians. Every effort must be made to prevent that. But that does not depend only on us. It also depends on the Syrians and the PLO."

With regard to the USSR's attitude, the LCP secretary general stated: "I do not defend the USSR. I may have some harsh things to say. But I do not place the Arab world's responsibilities on the USSR ... Some forces in our country had unbounded illusions about the USSR's ability to intervene irrespective of the time and place. We are not such a force.

"We are well aware that, although the international balance of power is favorable to the forces of peace, it is not absolutely so in practice. The Soviet Army cannot come and lift the siege of West Beirut. The USSR's power cannot be demonstrated independently of local circumstances. But on that subject I believe the weak link was not the international context but the absence or complacency of the Arab world. Without it the USSR can do nothing."

Georges Hawi then spoke about the Arab regimes and the liberation movement in those countries: "With the present events in Lebanon we are living through the end of a historic period; the one which began in 1958 with An-Nasir, with the Arab Nasirist and Ba'thist regimes and all that that stage in the Arab liberation movement represented.

"It must be realized that that movement's goals have not been attained. It is the reverse which has been attained. Let us not talk of Arab socialism, which has nothing to do with socialism. The Arab liberation movement could not rise to the problems which had to be solved. There is now a crisis in that movement due to the class nature of the dominant factions in that movement's leadership.

"We think radical and profound events are going to occur in the Arab countries. No single one can be protected from the repercussions of the situation we are experiencing in Lebanon. A new stage is now beginning. It requires everybody, including the communists in the Arab world, to stringently review their role in the past, present and especially the future...."

ISLAMIC CIRCLES REJECT AL-JUMAYYIL NOMINATION

NC250941 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0645 GMT 25 Jul 82

[Text] Under the shadow of the Zionist escalation which aims at blocking the way to reasonable solutions to the Lebanese crisis and at imposing the Zionist solution, Bashir al-Jumayyil, the commander of the Lebanese forces, last night announced his candidacy for president. He warned against attempts to foil the Chamber of Deputies' presidential elections session or to delay the calling of such a session. Bashir al-Jumayyil also announced his election program, which can be summed up as a program calling for total factional hegemony and the signing of a peace treaty with the Zionist enemy on the pretext that the Egyptian experiment is the best in the Arab world.

Observers have noted that Al-Jumayyil did not annouce his presidential program inasmuch as he announced his plan to usurp authority in Lebanon at any cost, even at the cost of partitioning and fragmenting Lebanon and keeping large parts of it under Zionist occupation. Informed Lebanese political sources have expressed the view that a constitutional crisis concerning the presidential elections is not unlikely. It would be a natural product of the recent developments of the Zionist invasion. The nomination of Bashir al-Jumayyil in the manner that it was done yesterday and within the framework of official information propaganda for this nomination reveals much about the true aims of the course the Lebanese crisis is taking.

These sources considered Al-Jumayyil's nomination as a dangerous step that must be averted through the largest measure of national and Islamic unity to prevent collapse. The political circles affirmed in this regard that the Islamic and national leaders in west Beirut and the north, irrespective of their different views, absolutely object to the imposition of the new president of the republic under the shadow of the Zionist occupation.

His Eminence Mufti Hasan Khalid summed up this position by saying that what is required now is a suitable president around whom the hearts and wills can gather in order to strengthen the unity of Lebanon. He added that the occupation frustrates sovereignty and that under this occupation it would be impossible to hold normal presidential elections.

As a result of consultations and meetings held in the past few hours, sources of the Islamic leadership have pointed out that the general Islamic position rejects the fait accompli candidate, and that this position has been conveyed to Chamber of Deputies Speaker Kamil al-As'ad, with whom intensive contacts were held to delay the call for the presidential elections session on 5 August. It has been learned that Speaker al-As'ad has heard the views of the former prime ministers and that a number of deputies have threatened to boycott the elections session if it is held on a date inconsistent with national dignity and under the spears of the Zionist occupation.

VOP: OPPOSITION MOUNTS TO AL-JUMAYYIL CANDIDACY

NC261055 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0945 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Text] The national and Islamic rejection of Bashir al-Jumayyil's candidacy to the presidency is mounting. In reaction to Bashir al-Jumayyil's decision to run for election, [former] Prime Minister Rashid Karami has stated: No power on earth can force us to accept that which is not in our interest or that which we do not accept. We also may resort to all means to defend this right. Let Bashir al-Jumayyil be well aware of this.

Brother Walid Junblatt regarded Bashir al-Jumayyil as the candidate of the Israeli tanks. He added: It would have been better for Israel to appoint him as a military governor in B'abda or to help the challenging candidate to carry out a military coup. Brother Junblatt said: This may still happen.

[Former] Prime Minister Salim al-Huss, in turn, rejected Bashir al-Jumayyil's candidacy because he is one of the fundamental parties in the destructive crisis. We demand a president who is above the disputes and divisions, he said.

Comrade Georges Hawi, the secretary general of the Lebanese Communist Party, rejected the holding of the presidential elections under the shadow of the occupation and the attempts to impose a president who submits to Israel and its conditions.

DRUZE LEADER SUPPORTS AL-JUMAYYIL CANDIDACY

NC252245 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 25 Jul 82

[Text] In commenting on the announcement by Shaykh Bashir al-Jumayyil, commander of the Lebanese Forces, that he will run for the presidential elections, Prince Faysal Arsalan [son of Druze leader Prince Majid Arsalan] said: We know that Bashir al-Jumayyil acts carefully and firmly, which is what is required at present. It is no longer possible to put up with the chaos and laxity prevalent in the homeland. As we bless the nomination. of Shaykh Bashir al-Jumayyil, we are looking forward to the return of the unity of the homeland, the supremacy of the law and equality among all.

MUFTI: ELECTIONS UNDER OCCUPATION 'IMPOSSIBLE'

NC242016 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 24 Jul 82

[Text] Shaykh Hasan Khalid, the mufti of the republic, received at his home today Mr Walid Junblatt and Messrs Munah as-Sulh and Mahmud al-Hakim. After a 1-hour meeting, the mufti made a statement in which he said: We have heard from Mr Walid Junblatt on the outcome o his recent meetings with the Lebanese and Arab leaders. We also conferred with him about the political atmosphere in Beirut and the area. The mufti said: Well over a month has elapsed since the siege of Beirut. Therefore, Beirut deserves from the whole world a move to lift the siege and to open the crossing points so that foodstuff and medicine can be sent in.

He added: On the approaching end of the president of the republic's term it is imperative that everyone ponder the steps that can be taken to lift the country out of its present state of affiars. This is because the Israeli occupation is hampering Lebanese sovereignty, and it is impossible for the presidential elections to be held in a normal manner under occupation. How can the elections to be held in a normal manner under occupation, when the government loses its authority and sovereignty over its territory? Even worse, the deputies -- the competent people -- lose their power of choice.

Further, the presence of weapons in the hands of the Lebanese people, the weakness of the legitimate people vis-a-vis the unlawful Lebanese and other forces, the disarray in the Lebanese will -- all these things will inevitably prevent the expeditious holding of elections which represent a free democratic tradition and which guarantee the selection of an eligible president around whom our hearts will rally and under whose aegis our willpower will be unified for the purpose of entrenching the unity of the Lebanese people, land and institutions and for entrenching Lebanon's absolute sovereignty over its territory.

BRUMMANA MAYOR ASSASSINATED IN QIBBAY' ROADBLOCK

NC231305 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 23 Jul 82

[Excerpt] The mayor of Brummana, George Ashqar, has been assassinated at a roadblock manned by armed men in Qibbay'.

HADDAD ON WATER SUPPLY, ADMINISTRATION, ARMS

NC240840 Marj 'Uyun Lebanon Voice of Hope in Arabic 0630 GMT 24 Jul 82

[Text] Major Haddad, commander of Free Lebanon, has issued the following:

1. We ask the remainder of the Syrian occupation forces in Al-Biqa' to restore the pumping of water from the Nahr Shamsin spring, because the majority of the inhabitants of the western Al-Biqa' villages drink from this source. If anything, this action [the suspension of water pumping] is an inhuman act.

We also ask Brig Gen Sami al-Khatib to personally take interest in this matter in his capacity as a symbolic commander of these forces.

2. Since the liberated section of Al-Biqa' has been practically but temporarily detached from the governorate center in Zahlah -- a matter which hampers the work of the civilian administrations in these liberated areas, especially with regard to electricity -- these areas shall be administratively linked to the governorate of the south [of Lebanon] for the time being.

3. It often happens that internal security, public security or army forces enter Free Lebanon to spend their leave, bringing with them their personal weapons. It should be borne in mind that these forces are not authorized to carry weapons except when on duty. Therefore, we warn everybody against going to the roadblocks in Free Lebanon carrying any weapons. From now on, any weapon found at the roadblocks shall be confiscated and consigned to the Free Lebanon Army Command. Officers are exempted from this decision; they are entitled to carry a pistol.

SHI'ITE OFFICIAL ENDORSES HABIB PROPOSALS

AU230905 Rome ANSA in English 0830 GMT 23 Jul 82

[Text] (ANSA) Beirut, July 23 -- There are several "good points" in the plan drafted by United States Middle East envoy Philip Habib to resolve the Lebanese crisis, according to Nabih Barri," leader of the pro-Syrian and pro-Iranian Shi'ite organization "Amal".

In an interview with "ANSA", Barri was asked what are the points "Amal" considers acceptable in Habib's plan.

A: "The sequence of the four stages: an end to the Israeli siege of west Beirut, withdrawal of the invasion troops, deployment of a multinational force in the buffer zone, withdrawal of the Palestinians from Lebanon and Israeli withdrawal to within its borders".

Q: Do you think this can resolve the crisis?

A: "Yes, because any political solution has to deal with two key issues: the price Lebanon will have had to pay for this crisis and the problem of United States' recognition of the Palestinian Liberation Organization as sole representative of the Palestinian people.

"On a purely military level, each side can claim to have gotten out of the conflict with honor, and this is important both for the Israelis and Palestinians, who must not leave Beirut under the threat of Israeli guns.

"I stress that Habib's plan also opens the way to resolving the Palestinian problem and recognition of this people's legitimate right to a homeland".

SAUDI CROWN PRINCE LEAVES DAMASCUS 26 JULY

JN261304 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Excerpt] His Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, Saudi crown prince, first deputy prime minister and commander of the National Guard, left Damascus at 1300 today following a 2-day visit to Syria. During the visit, Prince 'Abdallah met with President Hafiz al-Asad. He was seen off at the airport by Dr 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm, prime minister; Dr Rif'at al-Asad, member of the Ba'th Party Regional Command; 'Abd al-Qadir Qaddurah, deputy prime minister for economic affairs; several ministers; and the Saudi ambassador in Damascus.

U.S. CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION ARRIVES 23 JULY

JN232232 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 23 Jul 82

[Text] A delegation of the U.S. House of Representatives led by Nick J. Rahall arrived in Damascus at 1730 today on a 2-day visit to Syria in the course of a factfinding tour covering several Arab states. The delegation was met by Dr Muhsin Bilal, chairman of the People's Assembly Arab and Foreign Affairs Committee, by the director of public relations in the People's Assembly and by several protocol officials. The delegation was also met by the deputy chief of mission of the U.S. Embassy in Damascus and other senior embassy officials.

Upon receiving the head and members of the delegation, Dr Muhsin Bilal expressed the hope that the visit will enable the delegation to acquaint itself with the real situation in the region and that the delegation will honestly and candidly convey its impressions to the U.S. Congress and people.

Addressing the members of the delegation, Dr Muhsin Bilal said: As you set foot in Damascus, Israel's U.S.-made aircraft and rockets are savagely shelling west Beirut, setting fires, destroying buildings and streets and causing more tragedies to the inhabitants. Dr Bilal said he is indeed sorry that a country like the United States, which is a member of the UN Security Council and claims to be concerned about world peace, is involved with the Israeli enemy in such a flagrant and scandalous manner in its aggression against a sovereign independent state. He also referred to the U.S. administration's stands in the UN General Assembly and Security Council, its use of the veto in the interest of Israeli aggression and its supply of the most modern means of destruction and ruination to Israel.

The head of the U.S. delegation, Nick J. Rahall, who is of Arab origin, made a statement in which he emphasized the gravity of the situation in the Middle East and expressed the hope that the delegation's visit will contribute to efforts to achieve peace.

Mary Rose Oakar, who is also of Syrian Arab origin, stressed Syria's important role in achieving peace in the region. She said she is pleased to be visiting the homeland of her forefathers and expressed her desire and that of her colleagues to know the facts, far from any falsehood.

The U.S. House of Representatives delegation consists of five members representing several American states and includes Paul McCloskey.

Meets With Khaddam

JN241314 Monte Carlo Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 24 Jul 82

[Dispatch by Radio Monte Carlo correspondent in Damascus Louis Faris -- recorded]

[Text] 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Syrian deputy prime minister and foreign minister, who participated in the talks between President Hafiz al-Asad and U.S. envoy Philip Habib yesterday, said today that Syria refused to receive the Palestinian fighters because the PLO has not been asked officially, because the Lebanese problem is linked to the Middle East problem and to the Palestinian problem and also because what is required is the settlement of the Palestinian problem on the basis of the Palestinian people's legitimate rights and not the liquidation of the Palestinian cause.

Khaddam stressed that under no circumstances will Syria permit the Palestinian cause to be liquidated and the PLO to be wiped out. He said the just solution is to return the Palestinians to their original homeland and not to disperse them once again.

This took place when Khaddam met this morning with a delegation comprising six members of the U.S. House of Representatives, which arrived in Damascus yesterday evening on the first leg of a tour of the region that will take it also to Beirut, where the delegation will meet with Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat. It is expected that President al-Asad will receive the U.S. delegation later today.

The members of the U.S. delegation quoted Khaddam as saying that international efforts, particularly U.S. efforts, should focus on ending the Israeli invasion of Lebanon.

Meets With Al-Asad

JN242021 Damascus Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1905 GMT 24 Jul 82

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad received the U.S. House of Representatives delegation led by Nick J. Rahall at 1630 today. The delegation is on a factfinding tour of the region. The meeting was attended by Dr Muhsin Bilal, chairman of the People's Assembly Foreign Affairs Committee, and Robert Paganelli, U.S. ambassador in Damascus.

After thanking the president for receiving the U.S. House of Representatives delegation, Rahall expressed the delegation members' desire to become acquainted with and improve their understanding of Syria's stand.

The president welcomed them and expressed the hope that their visit will raise the voice of rights and justice in the U.S. Congress and in the United States in general. The president said: What we wish for is that the United States will play its role as a superpower that is a member of the UN Security Council and that has a special responsibility toward peace. Its role should be impartial and eventually against invasion and expansion.

The president pointed out that Israel could not have exercised aggression and invasion had it not been for continuous and escalating U.S. support, which eventually constituted a backing of the Israeli aggression, although all U.S. aid to Israel is paid for by the U.S. people's sweat, efforts and money. The president asked the delegation members: Do U.S. interests lie in U.S. support for 3 million aggressive Israelis against 150 million Arabs, parts of whose homeland are the target of aggression? Is it a U.S. principle to be with the aggressor against a people upon whom that aggression is committed? Is it in the interests of the United States to take the side of Israel, which practices racism, and to antagonize a people struggling against this racism?

The president refuted Israel's allegations with which it tried to justify its aggression against Lebanon -- a sovereign state that is a member of the United Nations. The president explained Syria's stand by saying: We want peace with honor and sincerity. We have never given up peace as an objective. We recognize the UN resolutions and call for work in their light. We do not think Syria should be required to do more than is stipulated in these resolutions. However, the invasion must be removed and aggression must be ended. The search for peace is one thing and submission to aggression is something else. No one can ask for peace under bombardment. This is not peace but capitulation, particularly since the invasion was carried out against our Arab nation. You must ask why the Lebanese people are being destroyed, why the Palestinians and Syrians are being killed and why hundreds of thousands of people are being displaced. There are hundreds of thousands of people in Lebanon without shelter and tens of thousands have been killed or wounded. Is this all work for peace? Naturally, this does not serve the objective of peace, and it is an aggressive act that must be condemned and resisted. We are seeking honorable methods that can lead to a solid, real and just peace. History has shown that people make peace but do not surrender.

At the end of the meeting, the head of the delegation on behalf of the delegation members and in his own name, expressed thanks for the president's reply to their remarks. He said: We came as American friends, and we want to leave with the impression of love for you and appreciation for your struggle and stands in defending your principles as well as for your love of your country in the same way we love our country.

Earlier today, 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, received the U.S. House of Representatives delegation. Khaddam reviewed the situation in the Arab region and the dimensions of the Zionist invasion of fraternal Lebanon.

LIBYA'S AT-TURAYKI MEETS WITH KHADDAM 25 JULY

JN251440 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1415 GMT 25 Jul 82

[Text] 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, today received Dr 'Ali at-Turayki, Libya's permanent representative to the United Nations. The talks centered on the current Arab situation.

Meets With Al-Asad

JN251927 Damascus Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1838 GMT 25 Jul 82

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad received Dr 'Ali 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki, Libyan secretary of liaison for foreign affairs, at 1915 today. The meeting was attended by 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and 'Abd as-Salim ibn Khayyal, head of the Libyan liaison office in Damascus.

KNESSET APPROVES TEHIYA CABINET APPOINTMENT

TA270657 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 27 Jul 82 p 1

[Report by Knesset correspondent Arye Rubinstein]

[Text] Prime Minister Menahem Begin yesterday promised the Knesset that just as the government had brought peace to Galilee, it would also succeed in bringing peace to Israel.

Begin was winding up the debate on the co-option of Prof. Yuval Ne'eman (Tehiya) to the government as minister of the newly created Ministry of Science and Development.

Reinforced by Tehiya's three votes, the coalition mustered a comfortable majority -- 57 to 49 -- approving Begin's statement announcing Ne'eman's appointment.

Just before that, the Knesset voted separately on the establishment of the new ministry. On that question the vote was 58-49, the additional vote being that of Dror Zeigerman (Likud-Liberals), who voted for the ministry but not for Ne'eman's appointment.

Alignment leader Shim'on Peres posed some sharp questions, not all of which were answered by Begin or other coalition speakers. Some of them, however, were such that the government could hardly be expected to give its answer in an open forum.

Peres said that Tehiya would give the government a further push towards what he said was the cul de sac it was getting into. Even if the PLO forces quit Beirut, was there any prospect of a stable Lebanese government? And, if not, would the Israel Defence Forces stay there forever?

The war had put the PLO as centre of the world's attention, Peres said. Was the government now to settle all of Judaea, Samaria and Gaza, "at Tehiya-tempo," and expect the world to stand aside?

Peres recalled how Begin had scoffed at the Alignment's plan of a territorial compromise with King Husayn, on the grounds Husayn would never agree. Yet at the recent rally at Tel Aviv's Kikar Malkhey Yisra'el on July 17, Begin had proposed that Husayn meet him in Jerusalem or Amman with the object of establishing a confederation between "western Eretz Yisra'el" and "eastern Eretz Yisra'el." That, presumably, was more realistic than a territorial compromise, Peres commented.

He charged that despite the limited objectives of the Peace for Galilee Operation, "we found ourselves in Beirut" confronting objectives not examined in advance and situations not foreseen by this government, Peres said.

Begin in his reply recalled that during the 17 days of the Yom Kippur war, the Gahal [Herut-Liberal bloc] opposition had deliberately refrained from criticising the government for its failure to mobilize the reserves in good time.

The reason the Israel Defence Forces had not stopped after shooting the PLO out of the 40-kilometre buffer it sought to establish was that the PLO had refused to accept the cease-fire unilaterally announced by Israel, Begin said.

He asked Peres: "If you had been defence minister, what would you have done in the face of the enemy's continuing fire -- retreat? Wouldn't you have ordered the troops to press northward?"

But Begin denied that one thing had simply led to another, with the government taking a passive role. At every step, he said, it had taken specific decisions.

The important question, Begin said, was "is there peace now in Galilee, or not? Are there katyushas in Qiryat Shemona?" But, since the war had continued, it was necessary to ensure peace to Israel.

"Gentlemen, Israel will have peace," Begin said. "I'm convinced of it." Those who had no patience, and who ignored the existence of the civilian population, could complain of the apparent stalemate. But the government could not blithely put the lives of civilians in jeopardy.

He denied Peres' statement that with Tehiya's entry into the government, the last hope for the autonomy plan had disappeared. Begin read out a sentence from the coalition agreement with Tehiya stating that the government would honour all its international agreements.

In the course of his speech, Begin said that 12 Alignment leaders had participated in the recent Peace Now demonstration. When challenged, he named only Victor Shem-Tov and Abba Eban. Later, Alignment faction chairman Moshe Shahal characterized Begin's charge as "anti-Alignment." Eban had not been at the rally, he said.

Ge'ula Kohen (Tehiya) justified her party's joining the government: Tehiya had fought the government hard in an attempt to block the Sinai evacuation. But today it was its duty to help the government fight "attacks from abroad and self-hatred from within."

It was unthinkable today for Tehiya to prefer the luxury of opposition to participation in the populating of Judaea and Samaria as quickly as possible, and to preclude any attempt to evacuate settlements there.

Yehuda Ben-Me'ir (National Religious Party) expressed satisfaction over Tehiya's joining the government it has so strongly denounced so recently. The NRP had been attacked by Tehiya and even many of its own members for supporting the government on the Sinai evacuation, he recalled.

Mordekhay Virshubsky (Shinuy), unlike other oppositionists, refused to say a good word personally about Ne'eman. "What you want to accomplish is a danger to Israel, so I cannot wish you success."

Likud, Tehiya Accord Detailed

TA231238 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 23 Jul 82

[Text] The agreement on co-opting Tehiya into the coalition was signed at the prime minister's office at noon. Our correspondent Razi Barqay reports that the signing ceremony took a long time because the prime minister was not ready to agree to various formulations in the agreement. Among other things, the agreement stipulates that a committee will be established to examine the legal status of the [Jewish] inhabitants in Judaea and Samaria and that the committee will be headed by a Knesset member from Tehiya. The prime minister refused to agree to the participation of Cabinet ministers in the committee. Finally, it was decided that representatives of the various ministries would form the committee.

Among other things, the agreement states that the government will act in the spirit of its decisions on the issue of settling Judaea and Samaria. Tehiya interprets the agreement as providing for the establishment of seven new settlements next year, the addition of 6,000 new families and the paving of 115 km of roads.

Our correspondent Razi Barqay points out that Tehiya compromised over the funds that will be allocated to settlement plans, and these now stand at about 1.5 billion Israeli shekels next year -- 50 percent of its original demand.

MK Ge'ula Kohen told our correspondent that Tehiya joined the coalition because the question of Judaea and Samaria and the attitude toward the Palestinians were now on the agenda.

Ne'eman on New Ministry

TA261831 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Text] The Knesset this evening approved the entry of the rightwing Tehiya party to the coalition. The vote was 57 votes to 49 with one abstention, Dror Zeigerman of the Likud. Tehiya party Chairman Yuval Ne'eman was appointed minister of science and development.

[Begin recording] [Ne'eman] This is development of Eretz Yisra'el. It's using the potential which we do have in Israel in the form of scientific know-how as a tool to change the geography of the country and to establish the more crowded parts of the Jewish population where they should be, along the central mountain chain all the way from Upper Galilee to the Negev, with Jerusalem in the center, rather than the present disposition in which it is all on the coastline, very crowded in one megapolis, really, between Tel Aviv and Haifa.

[Question] Now, you have come to an agreement with the prime minister, with the coalition, over the question of the autonomy talks. Suppose the autonomy talks do not get going again, will you be able to stay in this government?

[Answer] Well, that depends a lot on what will happen then. The autonomy talks are now stalled. We have a document in what has been put on the tables in the Knesset, on the Knesset desks, we have a document saying that if the autonomy talks, if and when they start again, there is, there will be -- we're starting from square A and, having -- I mean, when we start from square A we can make up our minds, if they want to go from A to jump to Z and the Z doesn't look good, then we'll be out. [end recording]

FINANCE MINISTER ESTIMATES COST OF LEBANON WAR

TA270538 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 27 Jul 82

[Text] The finance minister has made it clear that it is still impossible to estimate the cost of the war in Lebanon. A first estimate by his office shows that the cost up to now has reached 30 billion shekels. Minister Aridor spoke yesterday in the Knesset before it approved almost unanimously the law for financing Operation Peace for Galilee.

Knesset Approves Financing

TA261911 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Text] The law to finance the Peace for Galilee campaign was approved almost unanimously by the Knesset this evening. Only the HADASH faction opposed it. The speakers from all Knesset factions supported and praised the law saying it reflects the agreement between the government, the Histadrut and employers.

REACTION TO 'ARAFAT UN RESOLUTION STATEMENT

Begin Adviser Reaction

TA261232 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 26 Jul 82 pp 1, 2

[Report by the political correspondent]

[Excerpt] "All the foolish attempts to save the PLO and to provide it with a different mask are vain and stupid. It is impossible to turn a tiger into a kitten by petting it. The attempt by the U.S. congressmen to announce a change in the PLO's position on Israel stems from naivete or ignorance or both." So said the prime minister's adviser for communications and foreign press, Uri Porat, in reaction last night to statements by U.S. Congressman Robert McCloskey at a press conference in Beirut. According to those statements, he possesses a letter from Yasir 'Arafat to the U.S. Congress stating that the PLO recognizes all the UN resolutions.

Uri Porat also said in reaction to McCloskey's statements -- that in McCloskey's view the letter 'Arafat entrusted him with fulfills all the criteria the United States insists must be met for it to recognize the organization -- that if indeed all the things the United States are demanding are fulfilled, then from that moment on the PLO will cease to exist as the PLO.

Porat said in answer to a question that Israel will never conduct negotiations with 'Arafat. At the same time he stressed that Israel has never said that it would not negotiate with Palestinians.

Foreign Ministry Reaction

TA261347 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Report by David Essing -- live or recorded]

[Text] Speaking on the Israeli position to 'Arafat's document, Foreign Ministry Spokesman Avi Pazner says 'Arafat's publicity stunt will not help the terrorists: They will have to leave Beirut. The only burning issue today is that Israel wants the PLO out of Beirut and Lebanon. Pazner went on to say: We would like to state very clearly that all the deceit and declarations given for the benefit of public opinion -- that does not always know what is being talked about -- does not help the PLO. Yesterday's exercise only indicated the degree of despair in which the PLO finds itself.

Asked what the PLO should do now, the spokesman replied that the terrorists should leave Beirut and Lebanon. Then, if they really wanted to change their policy they would have to repudiate the Palestinian charter, in effect, to cease being a terrorist organization. In any event, the PLO has reached a military and political dead end in Lebanon. Pazner said the PLO had tried to use Congressman McCloskey, who has notedly been pushing for American recognition of the PLO for years.

Yesterday McCloskey did the work for 'Arafat, the congressman did the talking with the PLO chief standing by nodding his head. The congressman had shown a piece of paper that nobody was allowed to see. It came then as no surprise in Jerusalem that 'Arafat had tried to enlist McCloskey's aid. Spokesman Pazner also said the American State Department has been extremely cautious about the affair and rightly so. The congressional delegation is due to arrive in Israel today. It is still not clear just whom they will be seeing during their stay.

Labor Party Chairman Reaction

TA260646 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Statement by Labor Party Chairman MK Shim'on Peres -- recorded -- date not given]

[Text] What 'Arafat tried to do yesterday was to combine an attempt to gain a propaganda achievement with the desire to evade the issue. The issue at hand is not a matter of formulations, but of clear content. As long as the PLO wants to destroy Israel, as its charter says, as long as it embraces terrorism and is not prepared to directly recognize Israel, there will be no real change in its position, which is why this should be regarded as a propaganda matter.

Further Peres Comments

TA261413 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Text] Shim'on Peres has said the PLO is a heavy burden on the world's countries, an obstacle to peace and a danger to Israel. At a meeting with foreign correspondents in Tel Aviv, Peres said the PLO had not abandoned the policy of terrorism and had not accepted the UN Security Council resolutions. Shim'on Peres said the document signed by Yasir 'Arafat contained nothing really revolutionary and was not a breakthrough for peace.

MK Watad on Arab Reaction

TA261417 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Text] MK Muhammad Watad, MAPAM, has said that most of the Arabs in Israel welcome 'Arafat's declaration, if he really has accepted the UN Security Council resolutions on the Palestinian state alongside Israel, but not instead of it. Muhammad Watad thinks Jerusalem's reaction terming 'Arafat's declaration a propaganda play caused disappointment.

Press Comment

TA271037 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0435 GMT 27 Jul 82

[From the review of morning press editorials]

[Excerpt] THE JERUSALEM POST says the document signed by Yasir 'Arafat is not merely a propaganda ploy, as claimed by the Foreign Ministry. It is an outright hoax. Today, battered and besieged in its west Beirut redoubt, the PLO has shrunk, even in the eyes of its friends, to more modest proportions that reflect its real strength, but Congressman McCloskey does not see it that way. He wants to save 'Arafat and clobber Israel. So, together with 'Arafat, he created a media event. He waved a document and the headlines dutifully followed. He and the reports who uncritically reported that 'Arafat's acceptance of all UN resolutions meant a change in attitude were simply perpetrators of, or accessories to, international fraud.

DAVAR says that Israel need not react to a breakthrough that never was at the meeting of 'Arafat with the U.S. congressmen, but it should update its policy toward the Palestinians' future and the future of the areas in which many of them live. Israel must shake off the passivity by which it allows others to take the initiative and enjoy the limelight of public interest in a way that is harmful to Israel, even though McCloskey and his friends' futile maneuver will not stand the test of criticism.

HATZOFE says the 'Arafat paper should be seen as a theatrical play. But what is more serious is the voice coming from Cairo, which ties the PLO ouster from Beirut to U.S. recognition of that organization. It might be that the paper is designed to help such a move. Egypt feels left out of the political moves in the area and would like to take part in them through France, by harming the negotiations through drafting Security Council resolutions.

'AL HAMISHMAR says if 'Arafat were ready or willing to change his attitude toward Israel he could have done so in a more convincing way and in front of an authorized person, such as U.S. envoy Philip Habib. If there is anything positive or a step forward in the 'Arafat paper, it is the fact that 'Arafat, too, had to take some sort of a step implying recognition of Israel, although he does not have enough courage to make a real change. The Likud government and the hawkish camp will be glad that the 'Arafat paper is not the paper with a capital "P," because only then would the government be able to shake off the nuisance of dealing with the Palestinian problem.

HAMODI'A says that word games and paper trading, such as those that took place in Beirut 2 days ago, are silly, childish games designed to catch headlines and gain publicity, but their real value is virtually nil.

AL-ANBA' says that the same media organs that showed dilettantism or partiality while reporting on Operation Peace for Galilee are now trying to turn a tattered and vague note, signed by a brilliant actor, into a historic document.

MODA'I: PERIOD OF GRACE DOES NOT APPLY TO PLO

TA251735 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 25 Jul 82

[Text] Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i has said that the period of grace Israel has extended to Philip Habib does not apply to the PLO or the terrorists. According to him, Israel would prefer a political solution. However, a military solution is preferable to having the terrorists stay in Beirut.

In an interview with our correspondent Razi Barqay, Minister Moda'i leveled criticism at MK Rabin's proposal to agree to evacuate the terrorists to Tripoli. He said that both the United States and the Lebanese Governments were opposed to such a solution.

As for an information ministry, Minister Moda'i said he would be glad to head it. However, according to him, the issue has for the time being been struck off the agenda.

SHIM'ON SCHIFFER DETAILS PHILIP HABIB PLAN

TA270647 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 27 Jul 82

[Text] U.S. mediator Philip Habib will arrive today in Israel and will meet with the prime minister, the foreign minister and the defense minister this evening. Habib will report to them on his meeting with Arab countries' leaders. Our correspondent Shim'on Schiffer reports on the scheduled meeting:

[Begin recording] When will the terrorists leave Beirut? This question will be put to Philip Habib by the prime minister, just as he was asked during the 11 months of his previous mission: When will the Syrians take the missiles out of Lebanon? However, it cannot be inferred from this that in this case as well the results will be the same. According to the U.S. President's directives, Habib met leaders of Arab countries in order to seriously pursue their readiness to absorb groups of terrorists.

The Syrian and Saudi foreign ministers who met with Reagan told him that there is a chance that the solution will be found in a united effort of the Arab League members. The main problem is fear of the entry of armed groups and the weakening of the governments at home. This was discussed by the Syrian foreign minister with President Reagan when the minister gave the reasons for the refusal of the Syrian president to absorb all the terrorists into Syria.

If envoy Habib did get real promises to absorb the terrorists, then he will be able to present the following plan to the prime minister: a multinational force that will include soldiers from the United States, France, Italy, Canada and Greece will enter west Beirut to supervise the evacuation; the terrorists, with their personal arms, will be concentrated temporarily in the Al-Biqa' and the northern part of the country; at the same time the IDF will move out of the Beirut suburbs, and later the terrorists will leave Lebanon; Syria will absorb the leaders of the PLO and about 1,000 terrorists; Jordan will take about 2,000 terrorists who hold Jordanian passports; Egypt will give shelter to a few hundred; Iraq will absorb those terrorists who hold views close to its political opinions; and countries such as Algeria will help in the absorbing process.

In his talks with Arab leaders, Habib promised that if this plan is carried out the United States will work energetically toward resolving the Palestinian problem and achieving real autonomy for Palestinian Arabs in the territories.

What will Habib hear here? The air force, active in Beirut in the last few days, illustrates Israel's message that the terrorists must leave. The bombings help Habib and prepare the groundwork for carrying out the evacuation by other means if the political negotiations fail. It must be said that if Habib convinces the prime minister and the foreign and defense ministers that there is a real chance that the terrorists will leave by stages after they are concentrated in various areas of Lebanon, Israel will accept this plan with minor changes. [end recording]

'Sources' Warn of Failure

TA270802 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 27 Jul 82 p 1

[Report by political correspondent Yehuda Litani]

[Excerpts] Jerusalem political sources believe that in his talks in Jerusalem today, mediator Philip Habib will try to present his latest round of talks in the various Arab capitals and London as at least partially successful and will claim that some progress has been made on disputed issues. According to these sources, this is the U.S. mediator's method, and even if he comes here empty-handed, he will try to present some achievements or successes in Israel in order to prevent the negotiations from blowing up, and subsequently prevent an Israeli invasion of west Beirut or parts thereof.

Senior political sources said yesterday that if it emerges that Philip Habib comes here empty-handed and has not managed to achieve anything in his latest trip, Israel will find it very difficult to accept the situation and will consequently be forced to search for alternatives to force the terrorists to evacuate west Beirut.

'SENIOR FIGURE' ON AIR FORCE ROLE IN 'NEW PHASE'

TA241917 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 24 Jul 82

[Text] A new phase has begun in the siege of Beirut, a senior Jerusalem political figure told our defense affairs correspondent. From now on the IDF will provide the soldiers besieging the city with full defense, including using the air force against terrorist military targets.

The political figure said the IDF will use its force against military targets only, without harming the chances of the negotiations underway for the removal of the terrorists. And, indeed, today too, the air force attacked terrorist targets in the Beirut International Airport area and in the area near the Sabra neighborhood. This was announced by the IDF spokesman.

Shamir on Targets

TA251731 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 25 Jul 82

[Text] Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir told a delegation representing U.S. unions that the Israeli Air Force only bombards clearly terrorist targets in west and south Beirut so that the terrorists realize that they have no other choice but to leave Beirut and Lebanon. Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer reports that Minister Shamir pointed out that Israel thinks that Yasir 'Arafat and the members of his organization believe they would like to stay in Beirut and enjoy free publicity. We will make it plain to them, Shamir emphasized, that that is not the situation.

DAVAR Report

TA261201 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 26 Jul 82 p 2

[Report by political correspondent Tuvya Mendelson]

[Excerpt] The air force activity in west Beirut during the last few days was aimed at increasing the pressure on the PLO members besieged there and was not an Israeli reaction to cease-fire violations by PLO members. This emerges from statements made last night by Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir in a meeting with the leaders of U.S. professional associations. Shamir said Israel is bombing selective targets in west Beirut to pressure the PLO to leave Beirut.

SHARON ON 'STATIC FIRE' POLICY AROUND W. BEIRUT

TA260750 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 26 Jul 82 pp 1, 2

[Report by Knesset correspondent Asher Wallfish]

[Excerpts] Defence Minister Ari'el Sharon revealed yesterday that last Thursday the Cabinet had decided on a policy of what he called "static fire" around west Beirut.

Briefing the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee, Sharon claimed the government launched this new policy because of "PLO attempts to attack the Israeli forces around the city."

Sharon said that his last meeting with U.S. mediator Philip Habib had been conducted according to the instructions he received from Prime Minister Menahem Begin and in coordination with Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir.

Rejecting suggestions that Habib had felt unwell after the meeting because of the blunt way in which Sharon told the American what Israel felt about the course of the negotiations for the exodus of the PLO from west Beirut, Sharon said the conversation had been "frank and friendly."

Playing on the Hebrew term he used for "friendly" (levavi -- which means "from the heart,") Sharon quipped about Habib, who has a heart condition -- "there was no reason why he should have taken it to heart."

Narrow Cabinet Majority Approved

TA260751 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 26 Jul 82 p 2

[Report by Knesset correspondent Asher Wallfish]

[Text] The new policy of "static fire" around west Beirut which Defence Minister Ari'el Sharon revealed at the Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee yesterday reflected a prior Cabinet decision and was not -- as Sharon claimed to the MK's -- an impromptu response to PLO attacks on the besieging IDF.

The feeling in the Cabinet was and is that, however poor the prospects of the political option may seem, the PLO should be made to take the path of negotiations seriously, by employment of military pressure.

The new policy of "static fire" designed to catalyse the diplomatic process reflects the feeling of a very narrow majority of the Cabinet. The narrow majority held that the taking up of the "static fire" policy would restore credibility to Israel's insistence on getting the PLO out.

The escalation of tension in the eastern sector and around the west Beirut perimeter last week set the scene for the "static fire" policy to be launched last Thursday around Beirut, simultaneously with the crippling strike against the Syrian forces.

IDF CHIEF OF STAFF INTERVIEWED ON LEBANON WAR

TA231944 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1820 GMT 23 Jul 82

[Interview with Chief of Staff Lt Gen Refa'el Eytan on 23 July by Yoram Ronen -- place not given -- videotaped]

[Text] [Question] Chief of Staff, is there no danger of opening a new front in the eastern sector in Lebanon that will expand the scope of the war, which has been going on for about 7 weeks already?

[Answer] Let us examine this in comparison with other fronts. Where the Syrians do not want activity from their territory -- the Golan Heights, for example -- there is no activity. In Lebanon, in the Al-Biqa' region -- since they cannot organize activity in other places in Lebanon, there is some activity here and there indeed, but they cannot organize it; they can organize terrorists only in their zone. They gather the terrorists there, organize, equip and train them, and then send them on missions. Reports have reached us, both from captives and through intelligence gathering, that the Syrians have determined the bases in which they will be located. The Syrians set their missions for them, equip them with battle intelligence, send them and receive them back. This front in the Al-Biqa' has in fact continued since the day a cease-fire was declared, as it were.

[Question] Do you believe the Syrians understood the signal sent them by the IDF yesterday?

[Answer] The IDF is continually sending signals to them. Sometimes this is a tank shell, sometimes this is an official statement, and sometimes this is an indirect hint that they will not be able to play this game for long. If there is a contact line, if there are two lines -- one theirs and one ours -- each of the sides is responsible for events within its zone. This conception was translated into a practical language yesterday. Namely, you, the Syrians, are responsible for a line; passage is through you; we know that you organize these terrorists, that you send them and set their missions for them, and hence, that you will suffer the same penalty as the terrorists. This is what we did yesterday, and we will see what happens next. We have not limited ourselves, nor will we limit ourselves in the future either, to the distance, territory, or method of hitting the one responsible for activity against us.

[Question] In other words, you mean to say that if necessary the IDF will also be ready to advance in order to hit the Syrians?

[Answer] If this is the best thing to do, we will. If they can be dealt blows without us moving forward -- and it will be better for us not to do so, indeed -- they will be dealt the blows if they do not stop this terrorist activity.

[Question] It is customary to think that what is happening in Beirut, and not in Beirut but in all Lebanon is a war of attrition. There is talk of Philip Habib's political initiative dying. Is there still a military, IDF option in Beirut?

[Answer] Habib and attrition do not go together all that much. He may be tiring the people he is talking with. However, how and when did the war in Lebanon end? Was it when the forces stopped, or when the first cease-fire agreement was reached? When did the war end? The Yom Kippur war ended after 7 months. Shooting was stopped after 7 months.

[Question] That was on the Golan Heights.

[Answer] The Golan Heights was the place that shooting stopped last; that took 7 months. A political campaign is taking place in Lebanon. This campaign is being conducted now instead of military measures. It is not an absolute alternative, and it may be necessary to adopt military moves or options if it becomes clear that no other course of action can achieve the objectives set by the Israeli Government. It is too early to say this, though, that the military option is at the door.

The terrorists have in fact tried to do the same as the Syrians did or what they have tried to do since July last year when a cease-fire was achieved in southern Lebanon. Their interpretation of the cease-fire is: You keep quiet and we shoot. You must not answer, and we do -- here and there -- what seems to us to be disturbing and disruptive to you. So we are saying the same thing: A cease-fire exists -- true, there are political negotiations -- very good; you shoot so we also shoot. We can shoot more, though. We can shoot more accurately and we can use against you things you will never be able to equal, so make up your minds -- if you want to continue in this way, please. If you want quiet, then quiet will be kept for all.

[Question] It nevertheless seems that the famous hourglass for the political negotiations ran out a long time ago, and the more that time passes, the more force the terrorists gain, and time may be working against us.

[Answer] Time is on the side of the one who knows what to do with it. The terrorists think they are harassing us around Beirut. When we are around Beirut, they are under siege, and it is we who determine the tightness of this siege. If we hit them, they have no replacement for anything we hit, whether it be a cannon or an ammunition depot or a person. We want to turn off the water and electricity. We will not give them fuel, and so we will see who will last longer. If they fire a sniper's rifle, this may be what they are left with, and we will drop a 1-ton bomb on any target we decide upon. We will see who will get closer to a solution finally.

[Question] During the 8th week of the war there is talk that we are in a Catch-22 situation -- that we may have entered a sort of Vietnam situation, a mess. The question is how to get out of this mess.

[Answer] You decided this is a mess, and you now ask how to get out of it without it having proven to be a mess. You can say we are in such a Catch-22 situation in Eretz Yisra'el. From the moment the first settlement was established here over a hundred years ago, we have continually faced problems of bombs, terrorist acts, and intermittent attacks and wars. How does one get out of this maze of continual wars with the Arabs?

This is an ongoing situation that, this time, is taking place inside Lebanon and not in Tel Aviv or on the northern border, as it might have. The comparison should in fact be to the northern border. We pushed the mess 100 km north.

[Question] How does one get out of this, then?

[Answer] We do not get out, but get the terrorists to get out of Lebanon, and then these complications will move into Syria or Algeria. That is the problem Israel is facing or insisting upon, since if we see this as a mess and pull out, we will be pulling the mess back to Qiryat Shemona and Nahariyya.

[Question] Do you believe we can get out of this mess under the present circumstances?

[Answer] I do not agree to this word 'mess'. It is what the negotiations are about, since if they leave Lebanon, this problem for Israel in Lebanon will look different. We were stationed on the [Suez] Canal for many years. We sustained many casualties and finally achieved peace with Egypt. Egypt, however, is a country. The terrorists are not a country. The State of Israel has reached a conclusion on how this problem can be solved. The mess is theirs, not ours. They are the ones who should now find a way out of this noose of ours.

[Question] Chief of Staff, thank you.

KNESSET COMMITTEE CRITICIZES FOREIGN MINISTRY

TA261725 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Text] At a meeting today, Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee Chairman Dr Eliyahu Ben-Elisar attacked the Foreign Ministry and Minister Shamir for their handling of the information issue during Operation Peace for Galilee. This has been learned by our correspondent Arye Golan.

MK Ben-Elisar pointed out that in the course of the war the foreign minister had not even called one news conference with foreign correspondents. Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche told the Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee that the Foreign Ministry had no authority to handle correspondents in Lebanon. The committee chairman said in reaction: If there were problems of coordination, the foreign ministry should have raised the issue at the ministerial level.

ZE'EV SCHIFF ON SYRIAN SAM'S, SOVIET MISSILE TEAMS

TA250813 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 25 Jul 82 p 1

[Commentary by Ze'ev Schiff: "Why the Syrians Are Causing Provocations"]

[Text] This is the third time the Syrians have tried to infiltrate missile batteries into the Lebanese Al-Biqa' since the batteries were destroyed on 9 June. Damascus' immediate objective is clear: It wants to credit itself with the downing of at least one Israeli plane by its missiles and increase, even if only slightly, its prestige and pride damaged in the war.

In contrast to the previous occasions, this time the Syrians brought new SAM-8 missile batteries into the Al-Biqa', assuming that the Israeli Air Force is still not ready to face a missile system it has not confronted before.

The fact that the new missile was used soon after arriving in Syria arouses the suspicion that these batteries were not manned just by Syrians. It is possible that missile teams were mixed: Syrians, Soviets and possibly Libyans, who have also apparently procured this missile system.

Three SAM-8 batteries were destroyed in our air force's attack, but an Israeli Phantom was downed after that. The missile that downed the Israeli plane was fired from the other Syrian batteries, over and close to the border. This is not the first time that the Syrians have fired missiles from over the border. They have done so in the past, before the war. It should be recalled that the missile system that was destroyed on 9 June included missile batteries in the Lebanese Al-Biqa'. That was one system.

Immediately after that, new missiles were placed close to the border on the Syrian side; some of them were brought from deep inside Syrian territory and the others were apparently new ones which had only just reached Syria. These missiles have not been active since then, but now the IDF is faced with a problem: Should it react against missile batteries over the border, when they open fire, even if the Syrians position no more missiles in the Lebanese Al-Biqa'?

The Syrians fear this possibility, showing nervousness and are taking care not to use weapons they have not yet used. This is apparently a question of surface-to-surface missiles. The Syrians have reason to fear. The IDF is very close to Damascus, within artillery range of it. However, if this is so, yesterday's provocation of the air force is unclear. The next few days will tell what their broader objective is.

PRESS COMMENTS ON LEBANON, TEHIYA, WATT LETTER

TA261046 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0435 GMT 26 Jul 82

[From the review of morning press editorials]

[Excerpts] HATOZFE says that Habib's shuttle trip brings his mission to its end. After his trip he will have to decide whether he is able to fulfill the hopes pinned on him by Jerusalem and Washington or whether he should admit the failure of his mission. Anyway, in regard to Israel, it is clear that Israel is doing everything and will go on doing everything to achieve a political settlement in Lebanon. It is Habib's duty to convince the other side to agree to it. Let us hope that at the last moment Habib will succeed in his mission despite all the difficulties.

'AL HAMISHMAR says that Israel does not need any more wars. We have no claim on Syria apart from the demand that it refrain from aggression. A war with Syria, if it breaks out, will not be like a war against the PLO. Although we are sure of the IDF's strength and superiority, a confrontation with an organized and well-equipped army cannot but cause us heavy losses as well. However great the victory might be, its price will be very high, and its results will be very doubtful.

THE JERUSALEM POST says the government has thrust the nation into a complex trap of political and military attrition. The temptation will be to break it by force, in the hope that the pieces will somehow fall neatly into place. Eight weeks into a war that was solemnly pledged to take 72 hours is enough to give the public pause over this prospect. It would be no dishonor for the government to acknowledge that the public has good reason.

AL-ANBA' says that next to the amusing political gimmicks in west Beirut and the shuttle trips of Mr Habib in the field itself, there is a clear escalation in the fighting marked by renewed air force activity, by the destruction of the Syrian missiles, and by the downing of the Israeli Phantom.

DAVAR says that now, since Tehiya has joined the coalition, the polarization of Israeli society on the subject of the future of the territories is liable to become even greater. A total freeze in the political arena is also ensured, with all its implications for Israel in regard to its interests with the United States. In the face of all those prospects, there is only very little importance to the severe esthetic flaw, as the paper puts it, which brings to the Israeli Cabinet a new member, after it was discovered that he had committed an offense for which another member of the Cabinet resigned in the past. This new reality will probably receive the approval of the Knesset. This approval will extend the coalition's base and will give it parliamentary strength, but it will not add strength to the State of Israel.

HA'ARETZ reacts to the letter sent by the U.S. secretary of the interior to envoy Moshe Arens. Secretary Watt should have known that the Israeli ambassador is prevented from answering his request, both because he is not called upon to serve as a delegate of a foreign government, friendly though it might be to Israel, and because the Israeli ambassador must consider the opinions of U.S. Jews. The U.S. Jews, even the most pro-Israel ones, see themselves first of all as citizens of the United States and take care to decide for themselves how to keep the right equilibrium between their duty as American patriots and their clear affiliation to Israel as the Jewish state.

BEGIN, MUBARAK AFFIRM COMMITMENT TO PEACE PROCESS

TA260649 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Text] Prime Minister Begin and the Egyptian president, Mubarak, have affirmed their commitment to the Camp David peace process. This comes in messages exchanged between the two leaders on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of Egyptian revolution that overthrew the monarchy. Both men also called for further steps to realize comprehensive peace in the Middle East.

Alluding to the Lebanese crisis, the prime minister said Israel has lived through a critical time and called for a look beyond the current events for a time when peace in the region could be realized. President Mubarak makes a political speech for his parliament today. He is expected to relate to the Lebanese situation.

QALQILYAH MUNICIPAL COUNCIL DISMISSED 26 JULY

TA261951 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1910 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Text] Qalqilyah, 26 Jul (ITIM) -- Today the Qalqilyah Municipal Council was dismissed by the civilian administration in Judaea and Samaria. It had been on strike for the last 3 months and had not provided any services to the inhabitants and did not want to cooperate with the authorities in anything involving providing the town's municipal services.

It will be noted that recently many of the town's inhabitants appealed to the civilian administration with complaints about the nonfunctioning of the municipality and the damage they have been caused as a result.

To replace the municipal council that has been dismissed, an ad hoc committee has been appointed, composed of three officials, local inhabitants, who will manage the municipality and restore the services to the town.

Dismissed Mayor Hajj Amin an-Nasir said the civilian administration's act was illegal because he had been elected by the people. "I have succeeded in improving the town and I think the dismissal of the municipal council comes in reaction to what is occurring today in Lebanon against the Palestinians," the dismissed mayor claimed.

The ITIM correspondent points out that the mayor of Qalqilyah was elected in the municipal elections held in the region at a time when the election propaganda supported the PLO. He succeeded in beating his predecessor, Mayor Mustafa Nazzal, who is known for his moderation and as one of the heads of the large farming families in Qalqilyah which are close to the Jordanians.

The dismissed mayor has, throughout his years in office, expressed his complete support for the PLO and also continued to do so in interviews he granted to the media at the peak of the Galilee campaign. On his trips abroad he was helped by the PLO to found a "twin town pact" with the town of Tubruk in Libya and after that he gained development grants from it which were then stopped by order of the Israeli authorities.

As will be recalled, the civilian administration in Judaea and Samaria has recently dismissed the mayors of Al-Birah, Ramallah, Nabulus, 'Anabta, Dura, Janin, Dayr Badwan and, in the Gaza District, Mayor Rashad ash-Shawwa. Mayors of small towns in Judaea and Samaria are still in office as well as two mayors of two large towns -- Bethlehem and Tulkarm -- who were elected in municipal elections in the area. Bethlehem has not suspended municipal services to the inhabitants and its mayor, Ilyas Frayj, has been calling on the mayors for many weeks now to stop the protest strikes against the civilian administration.

DRUZE OFFICER APPOINTED MAYOR OF NABULUS

TA231245 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 23 Jul 82 p 4

[Report by 'Amos Levav]

[Text] This week a Druze lieutenant commander from the Galilee village of Julis was appointed mayor of Nabulus. He replaces Shlomo Kohen, a general staff officer for communications affairs in the civilian administration, who filled the post these last months.

Shlomo Kohen did not win the cooperation of the municipality workers. All the efforts, including those of the police, to return the directors of the municipality departments to work, failed. Mr Kohen was engaged in preparing an infrastructure for setting up a modern telephone exchange in Nabulus. He said that he did not have time to fulfill all the functions he had been charged with as the Jewish mayor of Nabulus.

Recently some of the municipality workers were arrested on suspicion of embezzlement and this did not help the understanding between the mayor and the workers.

The appointment of a Druze lieutenant commander, a regular soldier, to this sensitive post was received with astonishment in Nabulus.

EIGHT INJURED IN WEST BANK INCIDENTS 25 JULY

TA260859 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 26 Jul 82 p 2

[Report by THE JERUSALEM POST correspondent]

[Text] Eight persons were injured on the West Bank yesterday in two incidents involving members of the village leagues.

[At Ra's al-Qarqar] near Ramallah, six people were injured during a clash between village league members and residents of the village.

In Si'ir, north of Hebron, residents attacked the head of the village league, who used a weapon to drive off his attackers. There were no injuries from the firing, but the village league head and a member of his family were injured by stones.

Commanding officer of the Central Command Ori Or yesterday imposed restriction orders on the mayor of Qalqilyah, Haj Amin an-Nasir, and the former mayor of Janin, Ahmad Shawqi al-Mahmud. For security reasons, the two men have been forbidden to leave their villages and must report daily to their local police stations.

BRIEFS

NEW DEFENSE MINISTRY DIRECTOR -- Brig Gen Aharon Bet-Halahmi has been appointed Defense Ministry director general in place of Avraham Ben-Yosef, who has served in this position for only a few months. Bet-Halahmi will enter this position at the beginning of next month. The present director general, Avraham Ben-Yosef, will leave for the United States in August to head the Defense Ministry's mission there. The Defense Ministry is still waiting for Air Force commander David 'Ivri's decision, though. If before 1 January 1983 'Ivri decides to accept the position of Defense Ministry director general, Bet-Halahmi will become his deputy. [Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 22 Jul 82 p 8 TA]

NEW MEQOROT DIRECTOR -- Agriculture Minister Simha Ehrlich yesterday appointed Jewish Agency Settlement Department Official Ze'ev Ashkenazi as director-general of Meqorot, the national water company. Ashkenazi replaces five-year veteran Ya'aqov Tuvya fired last month by Ehrlich. [Text] [Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 26 Jul 82 p 3 TA]

SLIGHT UNEMPLOYMENT RISE -- A memorandum issued by the Manpower Planning Authority of the Labor and Social Welfare Ministry reveals that in the first quarter of 1982 unemployment rose moderately. According to the authority's data, submitted yesterday to the ministry's director general, the unemployment rate rose from 5 percent in the first quarter of 1961 to 5.5 percent in the first quarter of 1982. The unemployment rate among men increased significantly, while among women a certain decrease was evident in unemployment. [Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 23 Jul 82 p 5 TA]

DIAMOND EXPORTS -- Israel today is the world leader in the cutting and polishing of precious stones, accounting for more than 50 percent of the world's production, Avi Merom, president of the Israel precious stones and diamond exchange, told a press tour in Ramat Gan yesterday. Merom said that like the rest of the world, Israeli precious-stone export suffered a drop during 1981, but it was only about 10 percent -- $45 million compared to $50 million in 1980 -- with the drop in other countries having been greater. [Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 27 Jul 82 p 7 TA]

NEW AMBASSADOR TO ITALY -- Israel's new ambassador to Italy, Eytan Ron, today submitted his credentials to President Alessandro Pertini. [Text] [Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 22 Jul 82 TA]

MINISTERS ARRIVE IN TRIPOLI FOR 27 JULY OAU TALKS

WA270022 [Editorial report] Various media reports note the arrival in Tripoli of African foreign ministers for the 27 July Organization of African Unity (OAU) summit conference preparatory meeting.

Tripoli JANA in English at 1810 GMT on 26 July reports the arrival of Francois Ngarukiyintwali, foreign minister of Rwanda. Arriving on the same morning plane was Algerian Foreign Minister Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi and Ethiopian Foreign Minister Dr Felleke Gedle-Giorgis, both of whom expressed "hope that the conference will come up with positive solutions regarding African unity and the promotion of the African cause." JANA says afternoon and evening arrivals included Congolese Foreign Minister Pierre Nze, Mali Foreign Minister Alioune Blondin Beye and Niger Foreign Minister Daouda Diallo.

The same service at 1911 GMT on 26 July also reports being told by "informed sources" that the "Saharan Republic has not yet been invited to attend the African foreign ministers and summit conferences."

Nouakchott Domestic Service in French at 1430 GMT on 26 July reports that "approximately 20 delegations... are already in Tripoli, where the preparatory ministerial council meeting for the 19th OAU summit is scheduled to take place tomorrow morning. One of the delegations now present is that of Djibouti, which said it would not participate in the deliberations if the SDAR was also present." The service adds that "the necessary quorum for the holding of the summit conference is 35 delegations, that is, 2/3 of the member countries."

Paris AFP in English at 1734 GMT on 26 July reports that "a quorum has been reached for the Organisation of African Unity annual conference preparatory meeting opening here tomorrow, according to the OAU Secretariat today. A Secretariat official gave a list of countries which have registered for the meeting, including some which had said they would not take part if the Saharan Republic (SDAR) proclaimed by the Polisario Front was admitted to the conference." AFP says "Morocco, which is fighting the Polisario Front for control of the Western Sahara, was among the absentees."

"The official said the two Chadian delegations were now in the Libyan capital, without giving further details. One of the two represents Goukouni Oueddei, president of the Transitional Government of National Union (GUNT), who fled the country early last month after the capital, Ndjamena, was captured by forces loyal to Hissein Habre."

Paris AFP in English at 1829 GMT on 26 July cites the departure from Ndjamena of a "delegation from the Council of State set up here by Armed Forces of the North (FAN) leader Hissein Habre" for the Tripoli meeting. The delegation is led by Commissioner for Foreign Affairs Idriss Miskine.

LIBYA

AT-TURAYKI RETURNS FROM MISSION TO SYRIA 26 JULY

LD262044 Tripoli JANA in English 1822 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Text] Tripoli, Shawal 6, July 26, Jamahiriyah News Agency -- Dr. 'Ali 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki flew home today after a visit to Damascus during which he met with President Hafiz al-Asad.

Dr. at-Turayki was assigned to this mission by Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and President Chadli Bendjedid of Algeria.

Dr. at-Turayki briefed President al-Asad on the meeting between Colonel al-Qadhdhafi and President Bendjedid.

Dr. at-Turayki also briefed the Algerian officials on his visit to President al-Asad.

JANA EDITOR CRITICIZES PLO 'RIGHTWING' MOVES

LD261034 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0700 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Text] Tripoli, 26 Jul (JANA) -- The reactionary Palestinian rightwing these days has been intensifying suspicious moves with the reactionary Arab regimes and the Zionist enemy -- moves aimed at carrying out the reactionary, Zionist and American plans seeking to entrench the Zionist occupation of the Arab lands and to impose surrender on the Arab nation. Such moves have begun in the wake of the failure of capitulation efforts due to the firmness and steadfastness of the active forces of the Arab nation and the Palestinian Resistance that rejects all surrender plans intended for the Arab nation.

Commenting on these dubious moves, the JANA political editor emphasizes that the methods and channels used by the Palestinian reactionary rightwing confirm it is nothing more than an instrument of imperialism and Zionism, just like the rest of the reactionary Arab regimes that move in the orbit of imperialism and are hostile to the Arab nation and its active forces.

The contacts made by the Palestinian reactionary rightwing with the Zionists and the reactionary Arab regimes and the whispering in a number of world capitals over the reviving of colonialist Resolution 242, and the talk about peace moves, in light of the Zionist occupation and the massacre of Palestinians and Lebanese in Lebanon, confirm that this rightwing is now playing the role of godfather for capitulation, for abandonment of the Palestinian cause and for the extermination of the Palestinians.

The political editor affirms that these instruments have been pushed by imperialism, Zionism and reaction to carry out the American-Zionist policies and their schemes in the Arab region, and, therefore, the confrontation of the American-Zionist plan must begin with the confrontation of these groups, who are playing a dirty role, and the fringes that manifest themselves around the resistance movement.

The political editor says any talks about an end to hostilities, a dialogue or peace treaty with the Zionist enemy, means enabling this enemy to pick up the fruit of its savage and barbaric invasion and encouraging it to carry on with its aggression. At the same time, it means showing that the Arabs can be made to capitulate by force of arms.

This phenomenon, represented by the Palestinian reactionary rightwing, must be confronted by no less a violent confrontation than the one opposed to Arab reaction and other agents and traitors.

The contacts now being made in Cairo, Paris and other world capitals between the Palestinian reactionary rightwing and the Zionist terrorists, thanks to arrangements by the Arab reaction, are reviled and denounced and the Arab masses will cut off any hand that is stretched to the enemy. These masses are capable of carrying out the sentence of the Arab people against its enemies, just as they carried out the death sentence against traitor As-Sadat and all agents and traitors who before him met their deaths at the hands of the active forces of the sons of the Arab nation.

JANA SAYS EGYPT PRESSING FOR PLO CAPITULATION

LD262208 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1730 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Text] Tripoli, 26 July (JANA) -- The reactionary regimes revolving in the U.S. administration's orbit have begun to act openly to bolster their relations with Palestinian reactionary rightists and to rely on it to spread publicity for the acceptance of agreements of treason and capitulation, and to create a favorable atmosphere that would turn the Zionist invasion of Lebanon into a fait accompli.

The meeting [PLO Executive Committee member] Ahmad Sidqi ad-Dajani is holding with the Egyptian minister of state of foreign affairs, Butrus Ghali, and others in Cairo falls within the framework of these relations which give complete sponsorship to the imperialist plan aimed at enabling the Zionist enemy to impose its hegemony, to escalate its aggression and to widen the scope of its invasion of the Arab area.

Any relations the Palestinian right and reactionary regimes seek to establish are no more than a prelude to the completion of the imposition of the capitulationist plan and to submission to the Zionist enemy. It is the same plan the dead traitor as-Sadat accepted and helped to implement after completely becoming an agent and mercenary of American imperialism.

In this respect, it should be noted with regard to the expansion of meetings between the Palestinian reactionary rightists and reactionary regimes that Egyptian politicians are now pushing the Palestinian rightists toward exercising a bigger role in making the Palestinians accept capitulation.

The Egyptian role in this regard is clear and well-defined. It is consistent with the position of the Egyptian regime which is fully bound to the Camp David agreements and the humiliating condition they embody -- recognizing no right for the Palestinians.

MOROCCO

BOUCETTA ON PALESTINIAN PROBLEM, SAHARA DISPUTE

LD270256 Rabat MAP in Arabic 1530 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Text] Rabat, 26 Jul (MAP) -- M'hamed Boucetta, Moroccan minister of state for foreign affairs, has said the Moroccan people recognize that they have a responsibility to defend the holy places of Islam, that they must make all kinds of sacrifices to preserve the holy places and that they must provide the mujahedin with every help and support. They regard themselves as being constantly mobilized to come to the aid of their Muslim and Arab brothers everywhere.

In an address to the first meeting of the Istiqlal Party Central Committee, published today in AL-'ALAM, Boucetta, who is party general secretary, emphasized the Moroccan people's eternal commitment to the Muslim holy places and recalled that the Palestine question is ever present in their minds since Moroccan nationalists rose to challenge the Balfour Declaration. He emphasized that since then the Palestinian problem has always been Morocco's main concern and has always taken precedence over national problems.

In his political analysis, which centered on the Palestine problem and the Moroccan-Algerian dispute, Boucetta explained that, despite its own difficulties, Morocco plays a practical role in Lebanon, a role that will be revealed at a suitable time. King Hassan II has launched genuine new initiatives; he has been in touch with the PLO and has acted in coordination with it.

Boucetta condemned Zionist aggression against Palestinians in general and said the current Israeli operation in Lebanon is no more than one step in a plot that will continue until Zionist expansionist aims have been achieved. It will continue because Israel wants to liquidate the Palestinian Resistance. However, the Palestinian people will not give up; they will continue to carry arms to defend themsleves and their rights. All Maghreb and Muslim peoples are on their side.

M'hamed Boucetta expressed regret over the deep divisions in the Arab world and the weaknesses that have been all too clear. He said the problem has not been confined to severing relations between Arab states or closing borders. The enemy exploits situations such as these to take the Palestine problem out of context.

Boucetta said as far as Morocco is concerned, the situation "in our area" makes it essential that we defend our very existence in the face of armed aggression. We are pained by this situation, Boucetta said, but we are confident that the Moroccan people want to be in a position to face the Zionist aggression with effective action, that is, by armed confrontation on the battlefield instead of mere speeches and offers of a certain amount of aid.

Regarding the national problem, Boucetta said Morocco's enemies have redoubled their efforts and left no stone unturned to do us harm, in both the military and diplomatic spheres. They are making the familiar accusations to exert pressure and to pose threats to fraternal African nations. Their arrogance has exposed certain African regimes to the threat of extinction, others are subjected to aggression in an attempt to extract support for Algerian plots. He added that the main concern of both Algerians and Libyans is to bring us to our knees and exterminate us. In the face of such threats, we have no option but to redouble our efforts to resist and foil the expansionist plots against our country.

A few months ago, important fortifications were set up in the Sahara to ensure necessary protection. Thanks to these, the Saharan provinces have come under our administrative and military control. It is possible to move swiftly from any point in the Sahara within a short time whenever it becomes necessary to do so. These defenses and the effectiveness our armed forces have gained are the first conspicuous result of Morocco's efforts to defend itself.

As we face the plot militarily, we also face it diplomatically, Boucetta said. It may be said that our position in this field is improving. Thanks to the Nairobi initiative, we are in a better position. One indication of this is that we have more supporters because we are defending our right to bring legitimacy to Africa.

Boucetta said thanks to the vigilance of the African family of nations, the Tripoli conference, which would have provided an opportunity to reinforce the policy of hegemony, will not take place because no quorum will be present unless the organization returns to its senses.

We are aware that our enemies want to stunt the growth of Morocco, to turn it into a small state under their influence. However, we will fight that with all our power.

ISTIQLAL SENDS SOLIDARITY MESSAGE TO SOMALIA

EA251548 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1115 GMT 25 Jul 82

[Text] The Moroccan Istiqlal Party Foreign Relations Committee today sent a message of solidarity to the Government of Somalia. The committee said in its message: We warmly welcome the great victory scored by the Somali Armed Forces in repulsing the provocative naked aggression against your country by forces of the Abyssinian regime, which is an enemy of Arabs and Muslims.

The people of Morocco, who have been experiencing similar provocative attacks in the past 6 years, appreciate the great victory scored by the fraternal people of Somalia against mercenaries paid to carry out provocative attacks aimed at destruction, the killing of the populace and the wrecking of property. The committee expressed hope for the realization of true African unity to effectively fight political hegemony and Zionist and colonialist interests. The committee wished the Somali people success against the enemy.

JOURNALISTS SHOWN 'REALITY OF SITUATION' IN SMARA

NC262010 Paris AFP in English 1949 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Text] Rabat, Jul 26 (AFP) -- Moroccan authorities yesterday organised a press visit to their "wall of sand" fortifications in the Western Sahara to show "the reality of the situation" in the light of "the numerous communiques" issued by the Polisario Front recently, just before the Organisation of African Unity summit in Tripoli.

The Moroccan claims to the former Spanish Sahara are disputed by the Polisario, the admission of whose Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic (SADR) to the OAU has split the pan-African body.

About 30 journalists were flown to Smara, the religious capital of the Western Sahara, where a Moroccan colonel in command of the sector showed equipment which he said had been captured from the Polisario on July 22, when 2,000 guerrillas were surprised by Moroccan forces south of Smara and outside the sand wall protecting the region's vital areas. The equipment included a Soviet-made eight-man armoured carrier equipped with a rocket and antitank-missile launcher.

The colonel said Moroccan troops were building a second wall further from Smara to protect the town from possible shelling. It was forces protecting this work who had surprised the guerrillas, he added.

The officer said that Moroccan aircraft had also taken part in the action, destroying several Soviet-made T-55 tanks, but they were too far away to be towed to Smara.

The journalists were shown the fortifications in a 50-kilometre (30-mile) tour round Smara. At first sight [words indistinct] unimpressive, consisting of a stone or sand embankment, 2.5 to three metres (eight to nine feet) high, with foxholes for troops. Every four to five kilometres (two to three miles) there is a support point with buried guns and mobile forces in reserve. In front of the wall is barbed wire and minefields, and a reliable source said radar equipment could pick up movement outside.

The press party was then taken by helicopter to Afrafir, between Bou Craa and Zoujdour, which the Polisario said its forces had attacked on July 19 after getting through the wall. A major said that a Polisario attack had occurred against a support point on that date, but had been repulsed after two hours. He showed three trucks armed with multiple rocket launchers which had been destroyed, along with a machinegun, rockets and rifles which had been abandoned by the Polisario.

(A Polisario communique released in Algiers today said [words indistinct] attacked Moroccan forces on Saturday at Aglat-Azaouzil, near Smara, killing 45 and wounding [words indistinct] number. The communique added that after two hours of fighting, several Moroccan armoured vehicles and trucks were set on fire and three guns destroyed.)

SUDAN

PRESIDENT NUMAYRI WELCOMES PALESTINIANS IN SUDAN

JN261547 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1425 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Text] Khartoum, 26 Jul (SUNA) -- President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri today said Sudan is concerned over the sound and serious course of the Palestinian cause that will enable Palestinians to regain their legitimate national rights, foremost among which is their right to self-determination and the establishment of their independent state on their land.

The president added that this concern makes us watch with anxiety current developments in the Arab region in general and what is taking place on Lebanese territory in particular, where the continued Israeli armed invasion has taken the form of a war of annihilation against the Palestinian and Lebanese people and so far has led to the displacement of tens of thousands. In addition, another concern is the demand for moving the Palestinian strugglers from Lebanon to other Arab countries, which will have great impact on the Palestinian cause.

From this premise, we believe that what is required, on the Arab level, is to maintain the Palestinian struggler as a living and honorable symbol of the perpetuation of the Palestinian Revolution until the cause triumphs with the recognition of the fraternal Palestinian people's right to self-determination and the establishment of the Palestinian state.

His excellency stressed Sudan's readiness to welcome the brother Palestinian strugglers now in Lebanon. At this critical stage they are the target of a conspiracy by many parties seeking personal gains, raising misleading slogans and attempting to liquidate the Palestinian cause in the interest of the Arab nation's enemies.

President Numayri explained that by welcoming the brother strugglers of the Palestinian Revolution on its land, Sudan proceeds from a principled stand on the Palestinian cause which it has adopted since the inception of the May 1969 revolution. This revolution will exert all possible efforts to protect this cause and to support it in all battles it wages.

President Numayri added that this measure will safeguard the perpetuation of the Palestinian Revolution and will enable the Palestinians to reorganize their ranks after this unequal battle.

Concluding his statement, President Numayri said: We will continue to watch the situation, which changes every day as a result of the many parties involved, because we are determined to champion the Palestinian cause.

We hope the Palestinian people will overcome this tribulation by reiterating their determination to regain their legitimate national rights. President Numayri said he hopes the PLO bureaus throughout the world will become more active in explaining the just cause and will make peace-loving countries support it.

President Numayri said the PLO office in Khartoum will be a base for Palestinian militant action in Africa.

The president made this statement to SUNA today.

AT-TAYYIB TO LEAVE FOR ETHIOPIAN TALKS 27 JULY

JN261801 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1730 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Text] Khartoum, 26 Jul (SUNA) -- President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri has reasserted Sudan's concern over resolving the problem existing between Somalia and Ethiopia, which has led to a military confrontation between the two countries. The president has instructed First Vice President Staff Maj Gen 'Umar Muhammad at-Tayyib to discuss this problem with Ethiopian officials tomorrow.

President Numayri has embarked on an initiative to resolve the Somali-Ethiopian problem through talks and contacts with Somali President Siad Barre and Ethiopian President Mengistu Haile Mariam. The president's initiative indeed has helped to reduce the extent of the confrontation between the two sides in the past 2 years.

The first vice president and his delegation will leave for Ethiopia tomorrow at the invitation of Ethiopian President Mengistu Haile Mariam. This visit also comes within the framework of the continued meetings of the joint committees to discuss and implement what has been agreed upon between the two countries to further promote their joint relations.

FOREIGN MINISTER RECEIVES SWAZI ENVOY 23 JULY

JN241051 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1020 GMT 24 Jul 82

[Text] Khartoum, 24 Jul (SUNA) -- Foreign Affairs Minister Muhammad Mirghani Mubarak received in his office last night Abednigo Hlope, personal envoy of the king of Swaziland and minister of agriculture and cooperatives, who delivered a message from King Sobhuza II to President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri, dealing with explanations of the current situation in South Africa.

Hlope and his accompanying delegation will leave for Cairo this morning with a message for Egyptian President Muhammad Husni Mubarak. They have similar messages for Moroccan King Hassan II and Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid.

ETHIOPIA

MINISTRY PROTESTS U.S. ARMS DELIVERIES TO SOMALIA

EA262014 Addis Ababa in English to Neighboring Countries 1530 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Text] Ethiopia has strongly protested to the Government of the United States over its delivery of weapons to Somalia. A Foreign Ministry spokesman said today that the introduction of new weapons in the region, an area fraught with tension, is undoubtedly aimed at escalating the conflict with a view to ensuring U.S. military presence in the strategically important Horn of Africa.

The spokesman said that the U.S. move came in spite of numerous suggestions by Ethiopia to the United States, drawing its attention to the aggressive policy of the Mogadishu regime and the encouragement of these intentions by the U.S. military presence there. He stressed that the present decision by the Reagan administration to massively airlift weapons to the fascistic and expansionist regime of Mogadishu is directed against Ethiopia's territorial integrity and independence. It is also aimed at stifling the struggle of the people of Somalia against the dictatorial regime of Siad Barre. The spokesman said the U.S. decision to further arm a regime obsessed with the theme of territorial aggrandizement not only reflects the hostile attitude of the U.S. towards the Ethiopian people, but also its utter disrespect for the decisions of African heads of state.

He reiterated that at no time has Ethiopia invaded Somalia nor does it have any reason to do to now, and that the present crisis is purely an internal matter of Somalia. The Foreign Ministry spokesman said that Somalia's allegation that it has been invaded by Ethiopia is simply a fabrication designed to ensure the supply of U.S. military aid to launch further aggressions against the country.

PEASANTS ASSOCIATION CONGRESS CONCLUDES WORK

EA251748 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 0500 GMT 25 Jul 82

[Excerpt] The third congress of the All-Ethiopia Peasants Association has stressed that the expansion of farmers cooperative production societies in rural areas in the only way in which we can lay a reliable foundation for the establishment of our socialist economy. The congress emphasized this yeaterday at the end of its 5-day meeting.

In its resolution and statement issued at the end of the meeting, the congress pointed out that the formation of farmers cooperative production societies, in line with Leninist principles, is an important tool in the formation and strengthening of a socialist mode of production, adding that, since it is not possible to establish socialism as long as private ownership, production and use exist, it is necessary to immediately change the situation widely prevailing in our country's rural areas.

Regarding the exchange of goods, the congress pointed out that farmers have their contribution to make in the struggle to ensure the establishment of a healthy exchange of goods by ensuring that their goods reach the people in the cities and government establishments in the correct way, free from the exploitation of traders. The congress confirmed that farmers will redouble their activities in expanding services such as health, education, transport, culture, sports and so forth in accordance with the plans and directives for the development of the rural areas, as issued by the Commission of Organizing the Party of the Workers of Ethiopia and the revolutionary government.

The congress pointed out that the crimes committed everywhere by reactionaries, both from inside and outside, since the start of our revolution, ranging from disseminating false propaganda to the use of guns, can never be forgotten. The congress added that it has noted with concern that secessionist and other reactionary forces have still not desisted from their destructive actions, saying the All-Ethiopia Peasants Association resolves that it will not put down its arms until the "Red Star" revolutionary campaign, which was formed to ensure peace for the people of Eritrea so that they could speed up their development, has achieved its goals.

KENYA

PAPER ON USSR'S 'SINISTER DESIGNS' ON OGADEN

EA261228 Nairobi THE STANDARD in English 26 Jul 82 p 4

[Editorial]

[Text] The fighting along the northern border of Somalia can no longer be regarded as a local insurrection. It is now a conflict that has acquired international proportions, bringing the two superpowers into active confrontation.

Even if American or Soviet troops are not involved in the fighting, their weapons certainly are. The longer the fighting goes on, the more difficult it will be for a solution to be found and the more suffering the local Somali population will endure.

The world has seen similar initially localised conflicts develop into situations where world peace was really threatened. Vietnam was such one case in the early sixties. It took ten years, a near world war, and untold destruction before it could be ended.

Rather than apportion blame for the fighting to either Ethiopia or Somalia, it would perhaps be better to look further afield for the cause of the current fighting.

Ethiopia and Somalia have lived as neighbours for centuries. They have fought each other before but what their leaders should realise is that whatever the outcome of this or any other war, they will continue to live as neighbours.

On the other hand there is no record in history of the Soviet Union having had territorial claim to the Ogaden -- the border region that has been the bone of contention between Ethiopia and Somalia. Yet Moscow has openly admitted that she is supporting a rebellious movement -- the Somali Democratic Salvation Front (SDSF) -- against the legitimate government in Mogadishu.

Russia has been building up arms in the region for a long time, apparently since it takes intensive training for local insurgents to be versed in the use of MiG Jets and modern artillery.

While the Soviet Union has denied that Warsaw Pact troops are involved in the conflict, such a denial carries little weight in the face of an open admission by the so-called steadfastness front (Libya, Algeria, Syria, South Yemen and the Palestinian Liberation Organisation) that they are behind the rebels.

Like in other conflicts involving people of similar ethnicity, cultural background and religion, it would be difficult to tell who the actual rebels are. A similar situation existed in Chad.

We have suggested before what could be the solution to the Ogaden problem in the interests of those who live in the disputed territory. One could be the union of Ethiopia and Somalia in condominium, a suggestion which is obviously out of the question under the present circumstances.

Another could be a federation of the two states, which would eliminate the border dispute, but again this is considered unrealistic. Too much hostility has prevailed for too long and it would take years for attitudes to change.

What most people consider feasible in the present circumstances is an autonomous Ogaden region with a greater Ethiopia, a solution that would conform with international law and the Organization of African Unity Charter on the inviolability of national borders, but above all which should end the misery of the Ogadeni residents.

Unfortunately, the present conflict has wider and more sinister implications. These are the Soviet Union's determination to gain a foothold in the Horn of Africa and the western coastline of the Indian Ocean. For the Kremlin, the fate of the Ogadeni is of little consequence as long as these wider aims are achieved.

Every nation in the region -- Kenya included -- has a right to be concerned about these sinister designs which could only bring instability and ultimate chaos.

DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS ESTABLISHED WITH URUGUAY

EA241546 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 24 Jul 82

[Text] Kenya and Uruguay have agreed to establish diplomatic relations at ambassadorial level beginning from the 20th [of] this month.

In an announcement made simultaneously in Nairobi and the Uruguayan capital of Montevideo today, the two governments said that the decision was guided by the wish to develop further cooperation between the two countries.

SOMALIA

GOVERNMENT WILL NOT ATTEND TRIPOLI CONFERENCE

LD261536 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1400 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Text] A Somali Democratic Republic Foreign Ministry spokesman today disclosed that the Somali Democratic Republic has decided not to attend the OAU's ministerial and heads of state conference, to be held in Tripoli next month. The spokesman said Somalia is a founding member of the OAU and has always and continues to respect and adhere to the principles enshrined in the organization's charter. It also fully supports the OAU's aspirations for unity. It has, to achieve this, given full support to African countries within the OAU.

The spokesman added that Somalia's participation in all African conferences and its tangible role in such conferences are a demonstration of its support for all measures that can only strengthen OAU unity.

The Somali Government, however, cannot be blind to the unreasonable acts of the regime in Tripoli, whose warped policy is based on bringing about chaos, confrontation and interference in the internal affairs of African countries, while openly trampling on the principles of the OAU Charter, the spokesman said.

The Somali Democratic Republic Foreign Ministry spokesman said that adhering to such a policy has isolated Al-Qadhdhafi and his administration from the rest of Africa. The spokesman stated that Al-Qadhdhafi's regime is condemned by the rest of Africa for its military intervention in Chad, which is in the heart of Africa, in order to implement his imaginary lies, based on hegemony, with the full backing of superpowers whose aims are to profit from his madness and to achieve their aim of ruling Africa.

The Al-Qadhdhafi regime openly took part in the naked aggression launched by the black Abyssinian colonialists on the Somali Democratic Republic by giving military and financial assistance to the Abyssinians, the spokesman said. He added that the Somali Government views Al-Qadhdhafi as a man not fit to lead Africa in 1982-83, since Africa is going through a difficult period and needs a reasonable and down-to-earth chairman, with an (?understanding) of Africa and the rest of the world, to guide it.

The Somali Democratic Republic Government, recognizing Al-Qadhdhafi's crimes against Africa, of which the rest of the world is well aware, in sincerely implementing, safeguarding and advancing the OAU's principles of cooperation and understanding, has resolved not to participate in the OAU's heads of state and ministerial meeting, which is due to be held in Tripoli next month.

FOREIGN REPORTERS VISIT BATTLE DAMAGED AREAS

EA261600 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1115 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Text] Reporters from the international media, including the SUNDAY TIMES of London and German television, yesterday visited areas damaged by Abyssinian air raids in Galcaio, Mudugh region. They took pictures in Galcaio and filmed residential areas and trading centers destroyed by Abyssinian aircraft in their provactive raid on Galcaio.

The reporters interviewed a senior Somali Army officer in Galcaio who briefed them on the reasons for the naked aggression against the Somali Democratic Republic by Abyssinia and its allies. He said the aim of the attack was to harm the sovereignty and existence of the Somali nation and to create a state of instability in the Horn of Africa.

The officer said the attacks by Abyssinia and its mentors were, however, confronted and repulsed by the heroic Somali Armed Forces, who scored victories over the enemy on the battlefronts, capturing weapons and ammunition from the enemy and killing or injuring some Abyssinians -- the rest either fled or were taken prisoner.

The reporters also visited Balamba village in Ghel Gudut, photographing weapons captured from the enemy Abyssinian force.

COMMENTARY ON SOVIET PRESENCE IN HORN OF AFRICA

EA231954 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1115 GMT 23 Jul 82

[Muhammad Umar Kheyreh commentary]

[Excerpts] Russia's policy in the Horn of Africa cannot be camouflaged from Abyssinia's neighbors and the rest of the world. The Russians have created new tension in the Horn of Africa. The people of this region have declared their concern over Soviet activities in the region. After the Russians were expelled from Somalia in 1977, they entered the scene from the Addis Ababa side. The Kremlin rulers have now completely usurped the administration of Abyssinia.

Concealing their grand expansionist plan, the Russians are now saying that they are assisting a so-called liberation movement. It is not only in this region but in many Third World countries that the Soviet regime has come in and destroyed democratic systems of government on the pretext of aiding a liberation movement.

It is now generally understood that Moscow's aims and aspirations are not confined to the Abyssinian territory it has now swallowed but rather the grand design is to capture the whole of the Bab al-Mandab separating the Arab countries from the Horn of Africa. Moscow also wants total control over the Red Sea area where oil tankers pass to and from the Suez Canal and Europe.

The aim of Moscow's successive aggressions against the Somali Democratic Republic, with the aid of its Abyssinian, Cuban, Libyan, GDR and other surrogates in the Kremlin camp, is an open secret. The Kremlin leadership wants to further divide Africa in view of the indecision over whether to hold the OAU summit in Al-Qadhdhafi's Libya. Russia always attempts to disrupt any country that points out its global malice and it is a well-known fact in the world that the Kremlin neither extends any form of humane assistance to the developing countries nor makes any admission or denial of the shameful tension it creates wherever its puppet regimes are involved.

This global treachery by the Russians emerged when soldiers from its surrogates, and especially Cuba, Abyssinia and the GDR, were captured in unjustified wars.

Whatever the case may be, the question remains: When will the Russians withdraw from areas in which they are not wanted? What are the reasons for the Russian presence in the Horn of Africa?

The Somali Democratic Republic Government has already informed Moscow that its presence in the Horn of Africa is uncalled for and Africa is once again reminded that the Russian presence in the Horn of Africa must be checked before it creates another Poland or Afghanistan in the Horn of Africa.

DFSS: U.S. ARMS WILL END UP IN FIGHTERS' HANDS

EA262130 (Clandestine) Radio Kulmis in Somali to Somalia 1800 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Text] A spokesman for the Democratic Front for the Salvation of Somalia [DFSS] stated today that neither military assistance nor the recent U.S. arms delivery to the Siad Barre regime will help to thwart the popular revolution against the dictatorial military regime of Somalia; the American military equipment will end up in the hands of DFSS fighters. This is not a very serious matter, his statement added. Washington will pour weapons into Mogadishu and the front's fighters will eventually use these weapons. The spokesman added that weapons now in the hands of DFSS fighters are mainly those captured from the forces who still take orders from Siad Barre.

The new U.S. administration is making a mistake by trying to save the military dictatorship, which has even lost the support of the Somali Armed Forces that have been built up over the past 13 years of oppression.

The DFSS spokesman stated that the U.S. Government was wrong to interfere in the Somali people's struggle for independence and democracy by giving military support to the Mogadishu regime. Its military intervention in the region will (?create) a tense situation in this unstable region.

The spokesman went on to say that successive American administrations have not learned from past mistakes and have continued to assist unpopular Third World regimes. The spokesman said this seems to be an incurable disease of American leaders; they do not want to correct mistakes in their foreign policy.

The DFSS has no enmity toward Americans or any other people. Somalia will return to a democratic state with or without the help of opposition forces inside or outside the country, the DFSS spokesman's statement concluded.

DFSS REPORTS DESERTIONS, FORCED CONSCRIPTION

EA262126 (Clandestine) Radio Kulmis in Somali to Somalia 1800 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Text] Reports from the Democratic Front for the Salvation of Somalia [DFSS] headquarters in the villages and districts liberated from the Siad Barre regime say forces who once were loyal to Siad Barre are now swelling the ranks of the DFSS fighters.

The reports say hundreds of former Siad Barre forces last week poured into the fighters' bases with their weapons and vehicles.

Other reports from throughout the country say the regime is forcibly drafting destitute and refugee youths to fight in the battle zones. The reports add that the Siad Barre regime is pursuing a massive campaign all over the country. Clashes in which people were killed have taken place. In Bai, in southwest Somalia, 35 people conscripted into the army lost their lives when they attempted to flee.

TANZANIA

FOREIGN MINISTER DISCUSSES NAMIBIA, OAU CRISIS

EA211858 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 1300 GMT 21 Jul 82

[Excerpts] Dar es Salaam -- Foreign Minister Ndugu Salim Ahmad Salim said today that Tanzania will continue to resolutely support the SWAPO fighters at the battlefront. Ndugu Salim was presenting to Parliament estimates for his ministry's expenditure for the current financial year. He said since South Africa appears to be ready to begin implementing the UN Security Council resolution on the independence of Namibia, it is vital to intensify the war to achieve the set target. Ndugu Salim also touched on steps to give the OAU the ability to deal with disputes such as the one in Chad where a joint OAU force failed to fulfill its obligations. On the Middle East crisis, Ndugu Salim said a permanent solution must take into account the rights of the Palestinians, under the PLO, to their own homeland in which they can live peacefully.

The Foreign Affairs Ministry has asked for 147 million shillings for the current financial year.

BRIEFS

BULGARIAN DELEGATION -- A three-man delegation from the Bulgarian Communist Party is in Zanzibar on an official visit. The delegation, which arrived today, was received by party and government leaders, including the deputy chief executive party secretary, Ndugu Allan Heri. The delegation, led by the head of a subcommittee of the party's Economic Department, Ndugu (Redec), is expected to be in Zanzibar for 2 days. The delegation is expected to leave Zanzibar tomorrow for Dar es Salaam to continue with its visit to Tanzania. [Zanzibar Domestic Service in Swahili 1600 GMT 18 Jul 82 EA]

UGANDA

OPPOSITION LEADER ACCUSES ARMY OF 'GENOCIDE'

AB231453 Paris AFP in English 1345 GMT 23 Jul 82

[Text] Kampala, July 23 (AFP) -- The deputy leader of Uganda's opposition Democratic Party, Teberio Okenyi, today accused the Uganda Army of conducting what he called "evil acts of genocide."

Mr Okenyi told a Kampala press conference that his party would have to table a motion of censure against the government if the state of insecurity worsened. This was the first time the Democratic Party vice president had addressed a new conference since the 1980 general elections which returned President Milton Obote to power. Mr Okenyi read an 11-page statement in which he attacked recent government pronouncements linking some opposition members of Parliament to guerrilla activities in Uganda. "Let the law take it's course if they have any evidence implicating those MP's," he said. He added that he had been harassed five times in the past 18 months by the security forces in his home district of Kitgum in northern Uganda, and he called on government leaders to "stop threatening or humiliating political opponents."

GHANA

RAWLINGS REAFFIRMS PNDC INNOCENT OF MURDERS

AB251341 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 25 Jul 82

[Text] The chairman of the PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council] Flight Lieutenant Rawlings, has reaffirmed the innocence of the council about the murders of the three high court judges and the retired army officer. Those who are pointing accusing fingers at the council should, therefore, be reasonable and put an end to their accusations. Flight Lieutenant Rawlings was addressing the 18th annual Conference of the National Union of Ghana Students [NUGS] at the University of Cape Coast.

He said even the security agents who terrorized him during the Limann administration are still alive. We did not kill them. We want to convert them. The PNDC chairman said if he did not kill those who terrorized him, he does not see the reason why people should believe that he would, 6 months later, kill the judges and the officer. He repeated that if it is a sympathizer of the revolution who, as he put it, committed that evil deed, that sympathizer must be the biggest fool. Flight Lieutenant Rawlings admitted that mistakes are being committed but assured the students that these people would be identified and dealt with.

Flight Lieutenant Rawlings noted that some people seem to have lost the lessons of the June 4 era and said we have to examine and face the realities because we have been in suspension for too long. Our thinking process is faulty and even when we decide to give light to our thoughts and the words we utter, there seems to be so much superficiality in it. The chairman pointed out that if the power of the news media, especially in the Third World, is misused, it keeps the people in bondage. On the other hand, when it is properly used, it enhances growth. Flight Lieutenant Rawlings, however, observed that in the Third World, the media has become a weapon to keep many people in bondage and, in a way, this is what has led Ghanaians into this superficial process of thinking and acting. He declared: I love this country. The potential is there and it has to be unearthed. Flight Lieutenant Rawlings said that how to achieve this is something that has to be examined, adding that even with his limitations he can see a shortcut. He said he had thought that oppression was an accidental human error. But during the PNP [People's National Party] regime, he came to realize that oppression is deliberate and organized. Flight Lieutenant Rawlings asked the students not to give in to what he described as orchestrated lies and rumors being waged by the enemies of the revolution.

In his opening address, the outgoing president of NUGS, Mr Philip Gardner, said the nation's crisis has made students inseparable from the current struggle. He referred to the students task force exercise and their response for the formation of the people's defense committees as evidence of the people awakening from what he called the nightmare of local and foreign domination. Mr Gardner urged students to consider themselves as integral parts of the revolution. He hoped the congress would agree on programs that would put the nation on the march to democracy and social progress.

COMMENTARY MAINTAINS MURDERS USED AGAINST PNDC

AB250937 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 24 Jul 82

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] There is one clear and plain truth about all revolutions, from Russia to Cuba; Vietnam to Mozambique; Angola to Nicaragua; China to Ethiopia; from Libya to North Korea; from Chile to Chad.

It is simple and straightforward. In a revolution, if you do not crush our enemy, your enemy will crush you, and crush you without mercy. This is a law of history. It is the law that every revolution faces as long as the revolution aims at bringing an end to the economic and political domination of an exploiting class.

In Ghana today, it is as clear as daylight that the classes whose political power has been overthrown by the 31 December are working frantically to seize political power again. It is also plain that the former political bosses have only been overthrown. They have not been defeated -- not yet. And they are organizing. They are building public opinion in their favor. They are mobilizing support for their cause. They are asserting themselves.

The provocations and confrontations of the leadership of the association of recognized professional bodies are only one major event in this trend. In fact, that association is being used by the traditional leaders of reaction who are predominantly lawyers and who can be found in the leaderships of the discredited Popular Front Party, the United National Convention, People's National Party and Action Congress Party. It is some lawyers, the very reactionary, ambitious, antipeople elements among them, who are waging this antipeople war, using an otherwise harmless association.

Having discovered that their own boycott of legal work these days has not been noticed by anyone, the lawyers are going about instigating doctors to go on strike. And it is the lawyers who are making it look like the Provisional National Defense Council [PNDC] and the revolution are opposed to professionals and educated people. But this is not so. After the murder of the judges, it was the Bar Association which most blatantly moved to rally its forces and held meetings the atmosphere of which could only be described as hostile. Of course, outwardly, it seemed logical. They were mourning professional colleagues. But from the bar, the rallying embraced the entire professional bodies association in order to rope in doctors, engineers, accountants and others who up to then had been mourning like all Ghanaians, appalled by the insane murders. Happily, we learn that the doctors have rebuffed the subversive instigations of the lawyers.

Several statements have since come out, not simply expressing horror at the murders but using the occasion to denounce the PNDC and everything connected with it. Among these stagements a significant one that was blown up by the major private press was that issued by a well-known traditional political leader of reaction. Two things come out clearly: The reactionary forces are using the murders as a focus on a political platform of mobilization. Secondly, by design or accident, a feature is that they are rallying around this old political leader.

The other development is the intensity and confidence of the propaganda being waged by the major private press, especially the ECHO and the FREE PRESS. The confidence of some of the papers stems from their assurance that they have support from a powerful foreign government whose embassy in Accra provides them funds and newsprint. The general effects of these developments on the organized efforts of the overthrown classes led by well-known lawyers of discredited political parties are many.

1. They have tried to confuse the public about the moral credibility of the PNDC.

2. Progressive organizations such as the June 4 Movement and the New Democratic Movement have been painted as (?terrorists).

3. The PDC's [People's Defense Committees] and the workers' union have been cowards.

4. Most important, they have succeeded for a while in defusing the militant mood of the masses.

They have succeeded in putting the whole revolutionary process on the defensive. Look at how since the murders all mass rallies and mass political activities have suddenly come to a standstill. Reactionaries have succeeded for a while in putting fear in progressives and the masses. They have diverted attention and succeeded in creating among a section of the middle classes a lack of confidence in the PNDC and the revolution. They have briefly succeeded in making people wonder whether the PNDC can last even 1 year.

The next step after creating this political atmosphere is to move practically and concretely to mobilize the people to oppose the government. If they succeed in getting doctors to go on strike, they will then exploit the workers' genuine demand for collective agreements and other benefits to turn them against the revolution. By calling for a return to the old command structure in the military, they are simply appealing to the less committed among the senior officer ranks to start something from the military.

The PDC's must wake up. The workers' unions must stir themselves up. Progressive groups must stand up. The youth must be vigilant. The PNDC itself must shake up the wait-and-see attitude. The PNDC has compromised for too long. It cannot compromise its very existence and that of the revolution. It cannot wait while the enemy leads. No, it cannot be. A revolution is not a tea party. The knife is at the throat of the masses. The reactionaries are poised to attack. They are waiting to pull the trigger. They will attack in time. There is only one clear and loud message: Revolution or death.

RAWLINGS ADDRESSES MILITARY CADETS 23 JULY

AB231958 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 23 Jul 82

[Text] The chairman of the PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council], Flight Lieutenant Rawlings, has observed that democracy cannot thrive on violence and the use of force. Democracy, according to him, is a state of equality where ideas and views can be friendlily exchanged. Flight Lieutenant Rawlings made these remarks when addressing 67 cadets from the Achimota School at a ceremony marking the end of 4 weeks of basic military training at the Winneba Secondary School today.

He said it is the right of every man in any society to be a fighter and observed that this concept, which prevailed in the olden days in the form of Asafo group, died soon after independence. Flight Lieutenant Rawlings noted that man's environment plays a great role in the molding of his character and man must strive for perfection which can be achieved by upgrading his mental and physical abilities. The chairman appealed to people who have attained outstanding virtues in the society to make these ideals influence the society.

Flight Lieutenant Rawlings disclosed that as soon as the logistics are completed, basic military training will be extended to all schools. He thanked the headmaster of the Winneba Secondary School for making it possible for the training to be held in the school.

The commanding officer of the recce regiment, Major Arthur, who reviewed the parade of the cadets, expressed the hope that the cadets would make good use of their training and invite more of their colleagues to join them. The cadets later put on a demonstration of some of the lessons they have learned.

The training was under the command of Second Lieutenant Asare, also of the recce regiment.

TIMES URGES ARMED MILITIA FOR BORDER PATROLS

AB261040 Accra Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 26 Jul 82

[From the press review]

[Text] The GHANAIAN TIMES urges the government to consider as a national economic priority requirement the establishment of a people's militia or a suitable armed civilian system for border patrols. It notes that since the 31 December revolution, the efforts of the PDC's [people's defense committees] of border police stations and depots, self-defense village groups and the PDC's of a number of border towns and villages have proved that smuggling can be reduced through the vigilance of organized voluntary civilian border security teams. It has further been proved that the border guard possesses a large number of guardsmen who are dedicated to doing their duties honestly and efficiently. The TIMES feels that if they are aided by an armed civilian border security guard system, the attack on smuggling can be more effective. The paper points out that the use of armed civilian teams to assist regular border guard units on border security duties is practiced by a number of countries which do not suffer so much as Ghana does from smuggling. The TIMES calls on the PNDC regional secretaries to take up the matter seriously had done more havoc than the nation can continue to afford in the cocoa industry and the economy generally.

40 OIL WORKERS SET TO LEAVE FOR LIBYA 27 JULY

AB270750 Accra Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 27 Jul 82

[Text] Forty out of 150 Ghanaians recruited by the Libyan People's Bureau leave Accra today for Libya to work with that country's national petroleum company, Brega Ltd. According to an official of the petroleum department, the remaining 110 will leave next Tuesday to join their colleagues. The 150 workers are made up of 12 technicians and engineers who will be away for 6 months on attachment with Brega. The rest, who are 138 unskilled workers, have signed a 2-year agreement with the company.

It is believed they will work with Libya's ultramodern oilfield which has just been commissioned. The official expressed the hope that the attachment of the 12 technicians and engineers to Brega will be of tremendous benefit to Ghana's intention to set up her own petroleum company.

The Ghanaians will among other facilities enjoy free accomodations and medical care and will transfer 90 percent of their earnings to Ghana.

MADAGASCAR

JAONA SAYS ARMY 'ASSASSINATED' 65 PEOPLE IN MAY

AB261258 Paris AFP in French 0944 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Text] Antananarivo, 26 July (AFP) -- Monja Jaona, the unswerving chairman of "Monima Kamiviombio" (Movement for the Independence of Madagascar, a member of the ruling coalition), said on Sunday that the Malagasy Army and Gendarmerie "assassinated 65 people whose bullet-ridden bodies were thrown into a common grave."

According to Monja Jaona, who is also the dean of the Supreme Council of the Revolution, the incident occurred on 10 May at Ankera and Belamoty, important villages 100 km north of Toliara in the southwest, where Monja Jaona delivered the closing address of his party's 11th national congress. He also said "massacres" took place in other places including the extreme north of the country during uprisings last March at Sambava, Diego Suarez and Wosy Be.

"At Beneitra in the south, 42 people were shot," disclosed the nationalist leader, and 72 others suffered the same fate at Befan-Driana-Sud where "a teacher was assassinated last month by gendarmes."

"In 1981, Monja Jaona -- who is a native of this southern Malagasy district and considered the nationalist leader of the south -- and his party rejoined the ruling National Front for the Defense of the Revolution which they left in 1977.

Monja Jaona accused "some avaricious and bloodthirsty reactionaries" of being the authors of these murders and based his charges on the fact that 50 of the 65 Ankera and Belamoty victims had been members of the "Vangaurd of the Malagasy Revolution" (AREMA, President Didier Ratsiraka's party) and many of them had been elected local deputies.

These "massacres" -- concerning which the authorities have remained absolutely mute because they consider them "shameful for the country and the regime" -- have often been explained away as "blunders" resulting from the insecurity prevailing in the southern districts of Madagascar. Rural banditry and particularly cattlerustling with violence and acts of pillage have maintained a permanent atmosphere of tension between the forces of law and order and the people.

MALAWI

PRESIDENT BANDA APPOINTS TWO NEW MINISTERS

CA231702 Blantyre Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 23 Jul 82

[Text] His Excellency the Life President Ngwazi Dr Kamuzu Banda has made two ministerial appointments. Announcing this today, a spokesman of the president and Cabinet in Lilongwe said Mr D.S. Katopola, member of Parliament for Thyolo North, becomes minister of local government while Mr Louis Chimango, member of Parliament for Lilongwe East, becomes minister of transportation and communications. The appointments become effective beginning today.

MAURITIUS

PRIME MINISTER DISCUSSES 'ACHIEVEMENTS UP TO NOW'

MB211421 Port Louis LE MAURICIEN in French 10 Jul 82 pp 1, 2

[Excerpts] During a press conference yesterday, Prime Minister Aneerood Jugnauth made a statement on his government's achievements up to now, and then discussed with journalists questions mainly concerning the SSS [State Security System], the OAU conference in Tripoli in which he will participate and maintaining order.

Jugnauth emphasized that his government will see to it that the law is respected so that democratic rule can continue. He said the government will not tolerate illegal Tuesday demonstrations in front of parliament. Demonstrations, he said, are not abolished. The organizers have a normal procedure to follow and as soon as they obtain authorization from the police commissioner, they can go ahead. However, direct pressure on parliamentary meetings is out of the question. As the head of government and minister of interior, he said the police will enforce the law next Tuesday. A demonstration like last Tuesday's will not be tolerated.

When a journalist asked him why the SSS will not be dissolved when the government program of the MMM/PSM [Mauritian Militant Movement/Mauritian Socialist Party] alliance specifies that it will be dissolved, Jugnauth responded that the word "dissolution" in the government program was the wrong word and that the word "reorganization" should have been used.

Asked to explain the presence of the SSS in last Tuesday's demonstration and its presence among the journalists in the conference room, Jugnauth answered: "SSS members go where they are needed within the context of their work." Regarding the presence of an SSS member in the conference room, "it is possible that he is a member of the police accompanying me." A journalist later pointed out that the SSS member in question was taking notes on the press conference and was not part of the prime minister's escort, to which Jugnauth replied: Press conferences are public.

During question time, Jugnauth said Mauritius will become a republic. In this sense, the laws and the Constitution "soon will be amended," he announced.

Concerning the OAU summit, in which he will participate in several days, he stated that among the priority questions he will raise there will be "the immeidate problems we are facing, the Indian Ocean and the Diego Garcia question, demilitarization and regional cooperation."

Jugnauth also revealed that in Tripoli he will have discussions with the Libyan authorities on cooperation between the countries and he also will have similar discussions with representatives of other countries.

His policy during his stay in Tripoli will be within the framework of the neutralist position adopted by the Mauritian Government, and he has no intention of negotiating aid agreements or any agreement that might be imposed on Mauritius and that might compromise the country's independence and sovereignty.

Asked if there are any new countries that Mauritius is currently contacting to establish cooperative relations, Jugnauth declined to give any details on the subject, but said he was confident there would be interesting developments in the future in this regard. He did, however, say that the new government is expecting a lot from France.

COMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE CEDING OF CHAGOS

AB221322 Paris AFP in English 1253 GMT 22 Jul 82

[Text] Port Louis, Mauritius, 22 Jul (AFP) -- The Maruitian parliament has approved plans to look into an earlier administration's decision to cede to Britain the Chagos Archipelago, which includes the U.S. military base on the Island of Diego Garcia.

At an evening session yesterday the parliament adopted a report by Prime Minister Aneerood Jugnauth calling for a committee to be set up to investigate how the archipelago was ceded in 1965, just before independence.

Mr Jugnauth said the Maruitian people had the right to know how part of its territory had been "made available to the British, who immediately ceded it to the United States."

Several Indian Ocean states, including India, the Seychelles and Madagascar, had agreed to support the campaign for the Chagos to be returned to Maruitian administration, he said.

The Maruitian Constitution has been amended in the wake of the left-wing election victory last month to include the archipelago in the definition of Mauritius' territory.

MOZAMBIQUE

ANC HEAD, SWAZI OFFICIALS DISCUSS LAND TRANSFER

EA251522 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 25 Jul 82

[Text] ANC President Oliver Tambo is currently in Maputo for talks with Swazi officials on the issue of the transfer of lands from South Africa to Swaziland.

Disclosing the arrival, Agence France-Presse said Oliver Tambo arrived here from Garberone in Botswana, where he participated as an observer in the recent summit of the Southern African Development Coordination Bureau heads of state and government.

South Africa's ANC has already expressed its opposition to the integration of Ingwavuma and kaNgwane into Swazi territory because it considers the decision to be illegal and believes it would turn Swaziland into an ally of the Pretoria regime to the detriment of the liberation struggle of the South African people.

CHISSANO COMMENTS ON DEFENSE TIES WITH PORTUGAL

PM231003 Lisbon DIARIO DE NOTICIAS in Portuguese 14 Jul 82 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Portuguese Relations With Africa Are Not of 'Neocolonial' Kind"]

[Excerpts] Mozambique Foreign Minister Joaquim Chissano said yesterday that military cooperation between his country and Portugal could take in many aspects, does not necessarily mean "an exchange of personnel" and will be coordinated by their respective Defense Ministries.

Chissano also denied that the Portuguese Government's relationship with African countries is "neocolonialist" and emphasized that cooperation between Mozambique and Portugal is proceeding "between two sovereign states."

Joaquim Chissano, who was passing through Lisbon en route to New York where he will take part in the talks on Namibia's independence, was received by the president and by Pinto Balsemao, to whom he relayed his government's viewpoint on the prime minister's visit to Maputo.

It was right after this visit that Alvaro Cunhal said during the AVANTE! festival that the government is acting in Africa "as a Trojan horse of imperialism" and "has neocolonialist attitudes." Chissano did not refer to the PCP secretary general in the statements made in Lisbon yesterday. He confined himself to stressing that the two countries' independence and sovereignty have been "repeatedly emphasized by the two sides" and, so far, "Mozambique has no grounds to believe the Portuguese Government has made statements to the contrary."

BRIEFS

SOVIET DEPUTY MINISTER -- Poland Polad-Zade, Soviet first deputy minister of water resources, arrived in Maputo yesterday for talks on bilateral cooperation. During his stay, he will visit Xai-Xai, Massingir, Chowke and Bilene in Gaza Province. [Text] [Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 18 Jul 82 EA]

EDUCATION AGREEMENT WITH -- Mozambique and the GDR signed in Maputo yesterday a protocol of cooperation in higher education. The document was signed by the rector of Eduardo Mondlane University, Fernando Ganhao, and GDR deputy minister for university and technical school affairs, Guenter Heidorn. [Text] [Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 18 Jul 82 EA]

POLISH EDUCATIONAL COOPERATION -- (Kasmir Dobrowski), rector of Warsaw University, left Maputo for Poland today after a 1-week visit to the People's Republic of Mozambique. During the visit, Eduardo Mondlane University and Warsaw University signed a protocol and a cooperation agreement that will provide for joint research. The research will be defined by the faculties of the two institutions, according to a source at Eduardo Mondlane University. The universities also are considering granting scholarships and exchanging students studying for their doctorates. [Text] [Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1300 GMT 12 Jul 82 EA]

NAMIBIA

SWAPO COMMENTARY ON 'UNACCEPTABLE ELECTORAL SYSTEM'

EA231332 Addis Ababa Voice of Namibia in English 1900 GMT 22 Jul 82

[SWAPO program]

[Text] We comment on the unacceptable electoral system. Comrade Sam Nujoma, the president of the South-West Africa People's Organization, SWAPO of Namibia, has said that further progress toward an independent settlement in Namibia can only come once an agreement has been reached on the electoral system through a constituent assembly.

The SWAPO president was forced to make the remark in view of the latest proposal which the so-called Western contact group has submitted to the UN Security Council. The electoral system envisaged in the latest proposals is not clearly defined. It is ambiguous and contains too many loopholes to favor the white minority. Thus, the so-called contact group was highly favored [words indistinct] the West, but the racist South African regime, in recommending an electoral system which will be tantamount to creation of Bantustans inside Namibia has [word indistinct] quickly being stressed by the SWAPO leadership.

Fully aware that the proposed electoral system would be unacceptable to the people of Namibia, the Pretoria racist regime and its patrons in the (?West) have instigated their puppets in Namibia to raise protest voices which are aimed at hoodwinking world public opinion, in [word indistinct] that, what is not acceptable to the henchman should naturally be welcomed by those who are fighting for their freedom.

The latest Western proposals submitted to the UN mark the launching of a new series of dilatory tactics in order to prolong the independence of Namibia [sentence as heard]. They are designed to enforce on the people of Namibia a Lancaster House style of constitution whose consequences are being daily felt in Zimbabwe. The reservation of seats to the whites and dual citizenship are found in Zimbabwe to be an anachronism.

The experiment which failed in Zimbabwe is being instituted in Namibia in a slightly different way. Such an experiment, which will be an extension of the Bantustan system to Namibia, is being totally rejected by the broad masses of Namibia and their leadership in SWAPO. While delaying the independence of Namibia through [word indistinct] means, the military machinery in South Africa, which forcibly occupied Namibia in defiance of the UN, is being [word indistinct] out.

Angola has already notified the Nonaligned Movement that the terrorist regime in South Africa is amassing troops on the Namibian border, in an apparent preparation for invasion of that sister country. The military preparations in South Africa and the occupied territory of Namibia are intended to strike at what the Boers believe are SWAPO positions inside Angola, while independence negotiations are stalled under one pretext or the other.

The OAU and the UN as well as the Nonaligned Movement have to seriously study the motive of the fascist regime in Pretoria and its supporters in the imperialist camp. Urgent measures should be taken to prevent the People's Republic of Angola from being turned into another Lebanon.

While studying the latest proposal of the so-called contact group, what they really mean, independent African countries and the progressive forces throughout the world should extend moral and material support to the South-West Africa People's Organization, SWAPO, of Namibia, to enable it to withstand any offensive which the fascist Pretoria regime may launch, at any time.

Solidarity with SWAPO and the People's Republic of Angola should no more be confined to [words indistinct]. Failure to act in time could lead to very regrettable consequences for African countries.

What is most encouraging in the liberation struggle in Namibia is the increasing combat capability of SWAPO militants, who are committed to make whatever sacrifices necessary to liberate their motherland. The intensification of armed struggle in Namibia has humiliated the racist authorities so much so that they might resort to unpredictable military adventures. Independent Africa has to be ready to meet any challenges that the racists might throw and help SWAPO prosecute its war of liberation to its logical conclusion, concludes today's commentary, which was on the unacceptable electoral system.

SOUTH AFRICA

RSA COMMENTS ON SOUTH-WEST AFRICA SETTLEMENT

LD261658 Johannesburg International Service in English 1500 GMT 26 Jul 82

[Excerpts] We comment on a South-West African settlement. The signs from the MPLA Government of Angola are that it is going to ruin the South-West African settlement negotiations. The official Angolan news agency has said that Angola will not agree to the simultaneous withdrawal of Cuban troops from its territory and South African forces from South-West Africa. This goes directly against the demands of South Africa and the United States.

As far as South Africa is concerned, it's leaving negotiations for the removal of the Cubans in American hands. Should the United States fail in its efforts -- and in view of the firm stand taken by the Americans on the Cubans -- it would be totally unacceptable for the United States to try to persuade South Africa to permit a United Nations-sponsored election in the territory despite a Cuban presence in Angola.